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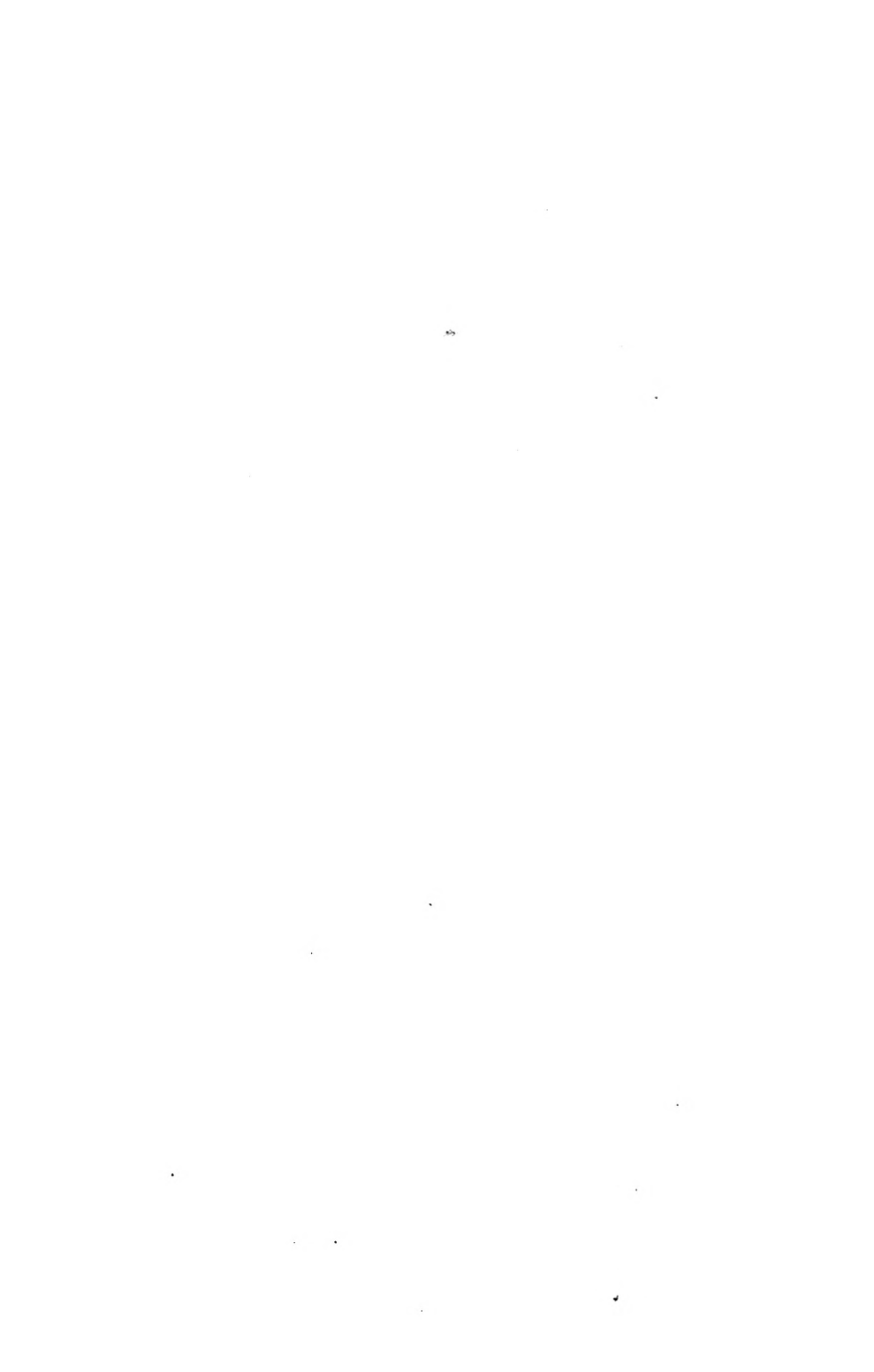
PRINCETON · NEW JERSEY



PRESENTED BY

Rufus L. LeFevre

1881
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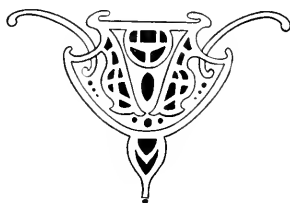


...An...
Historical Souvenir

OF SEVERAL
OF THE

United Brethren Churches

OF READING
AND VICINITY



BY

C. I. B. ^vBRANE

Press of
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610 Washington Street, Reading, Pa.

Dedicated

TO THE
FATHERS AND MOTHERS
OUT OF WHOSE TOILS AND TEARS
THESE CHURCHES SPRANG
TO THOSE WHO SUCCEEDED THEM IN THE WORK
AND BUILT UPON THE FOUNDATIONS THEY LAID
IN LOVE TO GOD AND MAN
TO THOSE WHO NOW
BEAR THE BURDENS OF CONGREGATIONAL ENLARGEMENT
INCLUDING MORE SOULS
AND BETTER FACILITIES FOR
THEIR SPIRITUAL CULTURE
TO THE
PRESENT MEMBERSHIP AND EACH PASTOR
OF THESE CHURCHES
This Souvenir
IS AFFECTIONATELY
DEDICATED



BISHOP J. S. MILLS, D.D., LL.D.,

How and Why

It was originally suggested that I present the gist of the following pages in the form of a pamphlet, secure enough advertisements to pay for its publication, and then sell the booklet in the interest of the church. Having no taste for such a sandwich, I entered upon the preparation of this HISTORICAL SOUVENIR, and invited our pastors of the city and vicinity to furnish me an historical account of their several congregations, which they have kindly done. So this little volume is before you, unpretentious but mechanically well executed, not as a money-making venture, but as an expression of interest in the achievements of the fathers and in the welfare of the churches they established. Besides the work of collecting and preparing the matter, this SOUVENIR cost the publisher twenty-five dollars. For the historical stories of their respective congregations, I am very grateful to Revs. G. D. Batdorf, S. B. Wengert, S. G. Kauffman, J. E. Keene, J. A. Grier, H. S. Kiefer and I. H. Albright.



Dr. Brane

C. J. B. Brane.

Easter, 1909



DR. D. D. LOWERY, Presiding Elder

A Word of Introduction

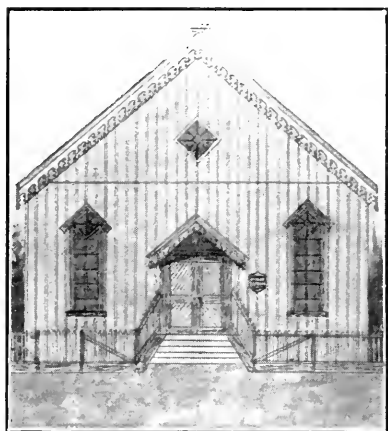
The history of the church is simply the Divine story of consecrated souls and their heroic achievements in His spiritual kingdom. It is but a record of the continuance "concerning all that Jesus began both to do and to teach, until the day in which he was received up." Every detail in this story has both value and power to the devout follower. Its value becomes increasingly fascinating and precious with the passing years. Many of the best and most inspiring facts in the Church's triumphs have never been tabulated in local church records, nor permanently written in her larger history. Much that is spiritually uplifting, as well as intellectually interesting and refreshing, has been preserved only in the memory of individual experience. The meagerness of the preserved records, particularly in the early beginnings, makes all the more precious what has been accurately written and carefully preserved. Any effort to put in permanent form the fragrance of Christian experience in personal character, and valuable facts in the Church's life, is commended and cherished by all lovers of the Church.

The Historical Souvenir, prepared by Dr. C. I. B. Brane, preserves an important and inspiring chapter in the Church's history. The living record by pen and picture of the Otterbein Church, Reading, Penn'a, as well as of the other congregations included in this book, permits its readers to live again in holy fellowship with the fathers in the earlier days of their hardships and triumphs. This little volume contains much valuable material, not only of particular interest to the congregations included, but also of permanent value and interest to the Conference and the Church at large. But for the painstaking work of the author, much that this book contains would have remained unavailable in future years, and in all probability would have been entirely lost to the Church. Because of a genuine love and fascination for the landmarks of our denominational life, Dr. Brane is peculiarly fitted for the task to which he gave himself.

The Souvenir is a veritable gem, both in design and artistic workmanship, and it will find a cherished place in the homes of many United Brethren people.

G. D. BATDORF

OTTERBEIN CHAPEL



Old Chapel

IN 1866, during the pastorate of Rev. Ezekiel Light, 44 members of Zion United Brethren Church, South Ninth Street, Reading, Pa., formed themselves into a separate class and organized a new congregation, whose services should be exclusively English, especially for the sake of the young people, who preferred that language to their mother tongue. This separation was mutually agreed upon by the German and English members of Zion Church; and the latter at once began the erection of a house of worship on North Eighth Street. On the

31st of March, 1867, after worshiping several months in Hagy's Hall, north-east corner of Seventh and Penn Streets, the little chapel was dedicated by Bishop Glossbrenner, assisted by Revs. Ezekiel Light, G. W. M. Rigor and Lewis Peters, the pastor. During the first year of Rev. Peters' gracious ministry over two hundred souls were saved, one hundred and fifty of whom joined the new church, which was called Otterbein Chapel. The original building was a little frame structure which stood down from the grade and back from the building line, as you see in the picture, which was furnished by Mr. Howard Davies, one of the early converts.

The first trustees were Michael Sands, Wm. Bingaman, E. G. Fishburn and Joseph Sands.

The following were charter members:

Amos Graul	Lydia Sands	Michael Sands	Mary Eisenbise
Servena Graul	Mary C. Lotz	Sabilla Sands	Sarah Druckennuck
Nicholas Zell	Catharine Haus	Geo. Hefflefinger	Emma Bingaman
Elizabeth Zell	Sophia Dewson	William Kuser	Sallie Echtermach
E. G. Fishburn	Albert Genbise	Adam J. Mengel	William Dewson
Joseph Sands	Wm. Bingaman	Sarah Mengel	Henry Zieber
John Strunk	Rebecca Bingaman	Charles Fisher	Anna Zieber
Susan Strunk	Ellen Geiger	Susan Heafer	Hannah Bruckenmiller
Elizabeth Strunk	Margaret Weyman	Anna Staudt	Rachel Bowers
Amanda Bingaman	Annie Weyman	Mary A. Zollers	Mary E. Dewson
Lillie Sands			Mary Graul

In 1879, during the pastorate of Rev. J. B. Funk, the old chapel was remodeled and enlarged; and during Rev. H. C. Phillips' administration the

Sunday School room was changed and refurnished. In 1904, during the pastorate of Rev. J. R. Meridith, some important improvements were added to the interior, the Sunday School room and auditorium being refurnished, and a very desirable change effected in the stairway of the church. These improvements, including a separate room for the primary department, were made at an expense of \$2,000.



Present Church

CHARTER MEMBERS REMAINING

Of the forty-four charter members only these seven remain: Mr. and Mrs. Henry Zieber, Mrs. Rachel Bowers, Mrs. Rebecca Bingaman, Mrs. Tillie Miller, Mrs. Lydia High and Mary Gaul. Mrs. Tillie Miller collected the money for the first Bible used in Otterbein Chapel, and presented it to the church.

OTTERBEIN'S PASTORS

Feb., 1867, to March, 1871, L. Peters	March, 1888, to Oct., 1889, M. A. Salt
March, 1871, " " 1872, W. B. Evers	" 1889, " " 1892, I. Baltzell
" 1872, " " 1876, I. Carpenter	" 1892, " " 1895, H. D. Lehman
" 1876, " " 1878, M. J. Mumma	" 1895, " " 1898, Z. A. Weidler
" 1878, " " 1880, J. B. Funk	" 1898, " " 1904, J. R. Meridith
" 1880, " " 1885, H. C. Phillips	" 1904, " " 1906, E. Ludwick
" 1885, " " 1888, M. P. Doyle	" 1906, " " 1909, C. I. B. Brane

THE DEED

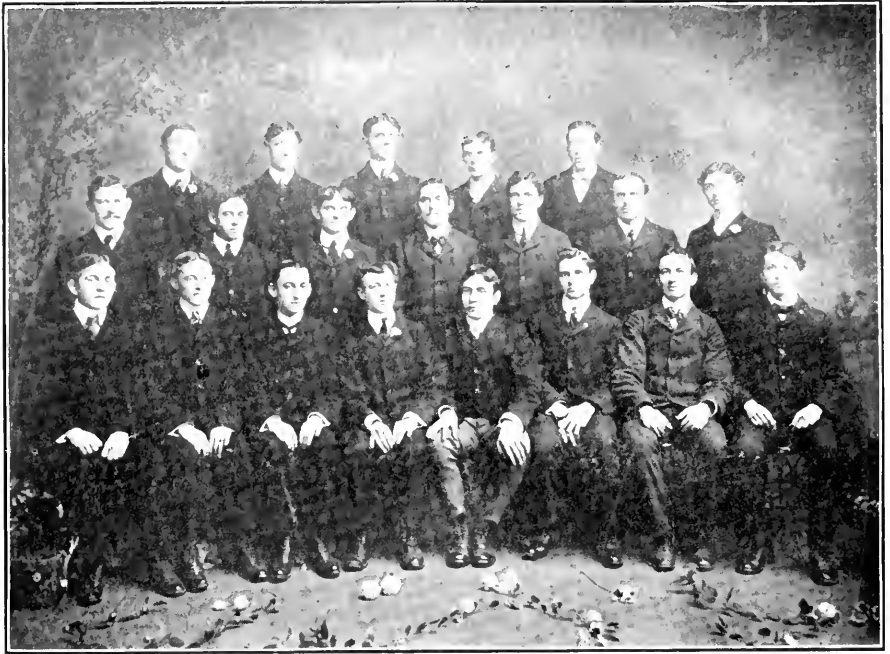
The deed for the lot on which the chapel stands was executed before Alderman Washington Rechards, February 25, 1870. It was made by Jacob Sauerbier and wife to Michael Sands, John Bauman and Samuel Lessig, in trust for the Church of the United Brethren in Christ. The lot is 40x109 feet and cost \$1,600. It is well located for business purposes on the west side of North Eighth Street, between Walnut and Elm. The lot was bought several years before the deed was executed; for the chapel was dedicated on the 31st of March, 1867, which means that the lot was probably purchased and work on the church begun in 1866. The lot and church, as remodeled and improved, including furnishings, cost about \$10,000. The auditorium is larger and much more cozy and comfortable than the exterior of the church would indicate.

It is just forty-two years since the little chapel on North Eighth Street was dedicated by Bishop Glossbrenner, who was one of the deepest and sweetest Gospel preachers that God ever laid His hand upon. That was a high day in the experience of those fifty members, most of whom have gone to their reward.



The above is a picture of the Young Men's Prayer League, organized in 1868. The following is the list of members as they appear on the picture:

Rev. L. Peters	Michael Sands	J. R. Staul	J. H. Neff
Theodore Deysher	B. Powling	F. Hawk	J. H. Simpson
M. Smith	J. L. Jennings	A. N. Bitting	J. B. High
J. H. Wilkinson	J. L. Smith	W. Schull	S. D. Sheaffer
C. Fisher	H. Morgan	W. Killian	J. Bowman
D. Wilkinson	A. J. Mengel	W. Edes	W. W. Dewson
W. Auge	C. Zieber	H. Newpher	J. Michael
W. Spearse	E. D. Smith	G. Graef	W. M. Miller
W. Homan	N. Foreman	F. Harner	W. J. Miller
C. Behney	J. W. Geiger	J. Dorwart	C. Richards
J. Moore	H. Dowling	J. D. Lessig	S. Lehman
B. F. Hill	J. Spangler	A. Graul	E. Ziegler
J. Schlosser	J. Sands	Wm. H. Miller	Z. Schaffer
E. G. Fishburn	D. Keim	Wm. H. Achenbach	H. Herner
Howard Davies	T. J. Geiger	S. D. Burk	W. Quaintance
W. Coleman	A. Landis	W. H. H. Fireing	J. H. Grimes
O. L. Edes	F. Coleman	W. Angstadt	J. H. Echtenmach
			E. Jeffries



The above picture includes twenty members of the Young Men's Bible Class, taught by Mrs. J. B. Baker, who was one of the most faithful and efficient workers the congregation ever had. In 1905, when the teacher withdrew, the members of this interesting class became widely scattered. May the nail-marked hand rest on each head!

Those on the picture, reading from left to right, are: First row, Homer Meridith, Festus Seip, Clarence L. Miller, William Rhoads, Charles A. Wisler, Harry Snyder, George Pflum, Winfield Snyder. Middle row, Edward Bomgardner, Clifford Landis, George Lee, John Williams, Philip Bomgardner, Mark Hutchinson, James Rhoads. Rear row, Clyde Snyder, Clifford Spangler, Chester Zimmerman, Charles Sands, Charles Glase. Members of the Class not on the picture: Chester Meridith, Charles Morison, Elwood Guinther, Charles Hurst, William Hurst, William Sterner, Charles Brown, Charles McDonough, James Heller, G. Harel Gundy, Luther Weidman and Isaac Herr.

A GOOD YEAR

This promises to be a good year in the history of Otterbein Church. It can and should be made the best she has yet enjoyed. The last dollar has been paid on the indebtedness of the church, which was \$500, two years ago. Improvements of great comfort and convenience to the pastor and his family have been made at the parsonage, costing about \$250. Over \$500 has been raised in cash for the building fund. The financial budget for this year exceeds all past records. The last communion, January 3, 1909, was the largest for many years. The public preaching services are well attended, considering the size of our membership. Indeed, the attendance at these services is twice what it was two years ago.

ROLL OF MEMBERS

Adams, Mrs. John, 318 North Sixth	Frankfort, H. G., Ephrata, Penn'a
Bomgardner, William H., 1571 Mineral Spring	Frankfort, Mrs. H. G. " "
Bomgardner, Mrs. Wm. H. " "	Geiger, J. H. B., 329 South Thirteenth
Bomgardner, Mary E. " "	Geiger, Mrs. Emma " "
Bomgardner, Ruth " "	Graul, Mary, 315 Moss
Behm, Adam M., 1132 Greenwich	Gehret, Beckie, 1135 Buttonwood
Behm, Mrs. A. M. " "	Good, Henry, 1319 " "
Bear, Mrs. Lillian, Edison	Good, Noah " "
Behney, G. Walter, 1318 Buttonwood	Goas, Mrs. Emma, 630 Pear
Behney, Mrs. G. W. " "	Gallagher, Mrs. Mary E., 928 Oley
Behney, Earl " "	High, Levi, 206 North Ninth
Behney, Esther " "	High, Mrs. Louisa " "
Brane, C. I. B., 519 North Ninth	High, Mrs. Emma " "
Brane, Mrs. Clara M. " "	Hess, Mrs. Sallie, 1525 Moss
Brane, Jessie M. " "	Hill, Ida M., 219 Greenwich
Brane, Roscoe H. " "	Hill, Mrs. Richard " "
Brane, Grace M. " "	Hill, Amelia E., 1257 Spring
Brane, Etta " "	Hayden, Mrs. Edna M., 212 Poplar
Brane, Dennis D. " "	Heim, Mrs. Ida, 1022 Mulberry
Blatt, Benjamin, 335 North Twelfth	Hedrick, Louisa M., 1380 Perkiomen Avenue
Blatt, Mrs. Benjamin, " "	Herner, Mrs. Cordelia, 1116 Green
Blatt, Sallie " "	Herner, Paul " "
Blatt, Annie " "	Hoverter, Mrs. Emma J., 619 Pear
Blatt, Clarence " "	Hoverter, Ruth " "
Batdorf, Mary, 1503 Perkiomen Avenue	Hurst, Mrs. Clara, 425 Orange
Becker, Maud, 223 Carpenter	Humelsine, John F., 253 Penn
Becker, Ethel " "	Humelsine, Mrs. Lizzie " "
Becker, Lorain " "	Hoopes, Howard, 1035 Douglass
Berg, Mrs. Barbara, 714 North Sixth	Hoopes, Mrs. A. S. " "
Covington, Mrs. Annie, 330 North Tenth	Heffner, Mrs. Hettie A., 1051 Buttonwood
Covington, Nellie " "	Herm, Catharine, 242 South Eighth
Coyle, L. J., 1117 Greenwich	Herm, Mary F. " " "
Clouser, William L., 529 Weiser	Herm, Elsie E. " " "
Clouser, Mrs. Annie " "	Hoffman, Mrs. Jennie, 944 Franklin
Cox, Mary A., 834 Green	Kline, Mrs. Emma, Rolling Mill
Conrad, Mrs. M. E., 302 Court	Kline, Irvin R., 452 North Eleventh
Davies, Lewis O., 317 North Eleventh	Kline, Mrs. Lizzie " "
Davies, Mrs. Annie " "	Kline, Evan " "
Davies, Howard, 1117 Elm	Kline, Mrs. Lovenia, 936 North Tenth
Davies, Mrs. Mary " "	Knipe, Mrs. Ella, 230 North Ninth
Deysher, Theodore, 921 Elm	Lied, Harry, 339 North Eighth
Deysher, Mrs. Mary " "	Lied, Mrs. Susan " "
Dungan, Harry, 436 Pear	Lied, Minnie " "
Dungan, Mrs. Mary " "	Landis, Samuel, 625 North Eleventh
Diller, Amos, Reading, R. D. No. 1	Landis, Mrs. Samuel " "
Diller, Mrs. L. S. " "	Lessig, Mrs. Sallie, 329 South Third
Diller, Hilbert G. " " "	Lutz, Esther, 318 North Sixth
Diller, Allen L. " " "	Loose, Mrs. Emma, 531 North Ninth
Eyrick, Mrs. Matilda, 212 Jefferson	Loose, Alberta " " "
Ford, Edward F., 935 Windsor	Long, George E., 506 Front
Ford, Mrs. Laura " "	Long, Mrs. Alice M. " "
Forney, Sallie, 742 Walnut	Long, Harvey " "

- Long, Mrs. Annie, 253 Penn
 Miller, William, 201 Franklin
 Miller, Mrs. Tillie, "
 Miller, Clarence L., 712 Schuylkill
 Miller, Mrs. Mary E., 234 South Ninth
 Miller, Mrs. Mary, 8 Buttonwood
 Murdorf, William, 623 Ritter
 Morgan, Hattie, 755 Bingaman
 Meredith, Rev. J. R., 816 Walnut
 Meredith, Mrs. J. R. " "
 McCarty, Abraham, 207¹/₂ North Third
 McCarty, Mrs. Abraham " "
 Miller, Harry J., 1255 Greenwich
 Miller, Mrs. Mary J. "
 Moyer, Frank N., 720 Centre Avenue
 Moyer, Mrs. F. N. " " "
 Moyer, C. Walter " " "
 Neizel, Bertha M., 237 South Fourth
 Neizel, Annie E. " " "
 O'Bryan, John H., 1139 Church
 O'Bryan, Mrs. Mary " "
 Pinyard, Mrs. Annie "
 Quinter, Mark R., 112 Oley
 Quinter, Mrs. Mary R. "
 Russel, Mrs. Bettie, 1649 Moss
 Reiber, Mrs. Alva, 212 Poplar
 Rothermel, Mrs. Beulah, 1127 Marion
 Rothermel, Mrs. Esther, 242 West Buttonwood
 Reist, Joseph, 143 North Front
 Reist, Mrs. Laura " "
 Reist, Naomi " "
 Reist, Ruth " "
 Riffert, Mrs. Ella, 333 North Eighth
 Resser, William P., 112 North Third
 Rowe, Mrs. Sallie, 168 Clymer
 Rhoads, Louisa, 736 Moss
 Smith, Elmer C., 331 North Second
 Smith, Mrs. Ella " " "
 Smith, Virginia " " "
 Smith, Mrs. Emma, 24 North Sixth
 Shadell, Mrs. Louisa, 1116 Green
 Sherker, Mrs. Clara, 318 North Sixth
 Shaeffer, Harry, 919 Greenwich
 Shaeffer, Mrs. Annie "
 Schaeffer, James W., 255 Penn
 Schaeffer, Mrs. Agnes "
 Shaeffer, Harry K., 738 Madison Avenue
 Shaeffer, Mrs. Harriet K. " "
 Saylor, Mrs. Kate, 540 North Eleventh
 Schable, Mrs. Annie, Philadelphia, Penn'a
 Sterner, Frank W., 803 North Eleventh
 Sterner, Mrs. Sallie " "
 Sterner, Howard, 803 North Eleventh
 Sterner, Russel H. " "
 Spohn, Charles E., 720 Locust
 Spohn, Mrs. Esther " "
 Strunk, Lillian C., 441 Woodward
 Spangler, Howard, 759 Bingaman
 Spangler, Mrs. Estella "
 Spangler, Mrs. Clara J., 453 North Eleventh
 Spatz, W. D. B., 945 North Fifth
 Spatz, Mrs. Bessie " "
 Schetter, Mrs. Nora H., 936 North Tenth
 Snyder, Bessie,
 Stoner, Jacob, 341 South Sixth
 Stoner, Clay, 418 Woodward
 Stoner, Mrs. Geneva "
 Stoner, Erma "
 Stoner, Kise "
 Strohecker, Aaron, Edison, Penn'a
 Spears, Mrs. Annie C., 230 South Tenth
 Symonds, Mrs. Ida K., 354 South Fourth
 Sands, Ephriam, 308 West Oley
 Sands, Mrs. Kate M. " "
 Shearer, William, 114 North Ninth
 Shearer, Mrs. William " "
 Shearer, Marie " "
 Strausser, Raymond,
 Staul, George K., Reading, Penn'a
 Strohecker, Jacob G., 1011 Church
 Strohecker, Mrs. J. G. " "
 Strohecker, Aaron, Edison, Penn'a
 Wisler, Mrs. Mary C., 1117 Greenwich
 Wisler, Charles A. " "
 Wisler, Howard W., 527 North Eleventh
 Wisler, Mrs. Geneva " " "
 Wisler, Mary W. " " "
 Werts, James, 818 Greenwich
 Werts, Mrs. Annie "
 Werts, Esther "
 Werts, Annie "
 Werts, Mrs. W. C., 353 Schuylkill Avenue
 Wise, Samuel, 104 Oley
 Wise, Mary C. " "
 Weinhold, Ezra R., 434 Pear
 Weinhold, Mrs. Ezra R. "
 Walther, Mrs. Lillian, 223 Carpenter
 Yeager, Carrie, 343 Miller
 Yoder, Sarah, ———
 Zieber, Henry, 745 Lance Place
 Zieber, Mrs. Annie " "
 Zell, Ebb N., 316 North Ninth
 Zell, Mrs. Belle, 512 Cedar
 Zimmerman, Samuel, Rosedale, Penn'a
 Zimmerman, Mrs. Mary " "

PROMOTED

The following members and friends died during the present administration: Frederick Zimmerman, Howard Spangler, John Nagle, Elmer E. O'Bryan, Margaret Strohecker, Milton F. Bear, Harry B. Douglass, Catharine St. Clair Miller, Stephen Walther, Anna Murdorf, J. S. Face, Robert Morgan, Isabella Lutz, Catharine Hill, Amanda Lessig, Barbara Nagle, Richard P. Hill.

SEWING CIRCLE

The Ladies' Sewing Circle was organized January 4, 1906, at the home of Mrs. Belle Zell, 512 Cedar Street, and the following officers were elected: President, Mrs. J. W. Schaffer; Vice-President, Mrs. George Long; Secretary, Mrs. J. Walter Behney; Treasurer, Mrs. L. J. Coyle. The Circle has been active and enterprising, and is doing a good work for the church.

CRADLE ROLL

The Cradle Roll of the Sunday School was organized January 25, 1903. Theodore Deysher is the Superintendent, and these are the present members:

Emma Esther Adams, Emma Lula Davies, Elsie Grace Dussinger, Dorothy I. Dussinger, Violet Anna DeBinder, Paul Peter Heim, Catharin Julia Hoopes, Miriam Helen Herm, Thelma Mae Hayden, Mary Ellen Hoopes, Ruth Leibelsperger, Henry Jeremiah O'Bryan, Esther Laura Reist, Eber James Spatz, Clarence Henry Shaeffer, Wilbur D. B. Spatz, Ralph Reeser Sterner, Ethel Florence Werts.

PRIMARY SCHOOL

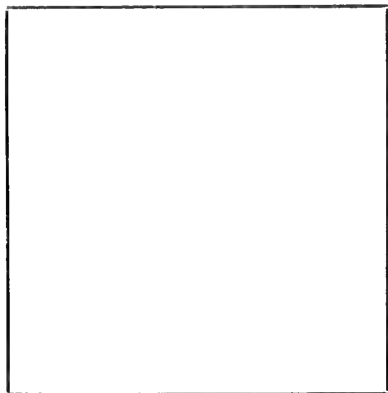
Theodore Deysher, Superintendent; Mrs. Deysher and Mrs. Annie Pinyard, Assistants. The members are the following:

Esther Behney, Dennis DeWitt Brane, Paul Blatt, Herbert Davis, Elizabeth Ford, Sadie Fick, Lewis Ott Goas, Vera Heffner, Carrie Heffner, Mary Herm, Elsie P. E. Herm, Katharyne Louisa High, Evan Kline, Ada Landis, William A. Moyer, Aaron Mock, Raymond Reeser, Reynolds Riffert, Naomi Reist, James LeRoy Reist, Clara Hilda Sherker, Virginia Smith, Olga Minerva Smith, Russel Sterner, Catharine Spatz, Emily E. Spatz, Warren C. Spatz, Irene Schaeffer, Samuel D. Sellers, Margaret Vernon, Bessie Zell.

LADIES' AID SOCIETY

The Ladies' Aid Society was organized in 1876, under Rev. M. J. Mumma's administration, his wife being the first President and Mrs. Rachel Wise the first Secretary. These are the present officers: President, Mrs. Annie Clouser; Vice-President, Mrs. Mary Davies; Secretary, Mrs. G. Walter Behney; Treasurer, Mrs. Mary Deysher. The following are the Stewards: Mrs. Mary Deysher, Mrs. Clara Behm, Mrs. William Bomgardner, Mrs. George Long, Mrs. Harry Dungan, Mrs. Annie Pinyard, Mrs. Howard Wisler, Mrs. Ezra Winhold. The Society has about fifty members, and is doing a good work for the church. Its special concern is the care of the parsonage, upon which the Society just spent about \$300 for improvements which greatly add to the value of the house.

ANOTHER TEMPLE



Room for a New Church

THERE is room for a new church! Aye, not only *room*, but also real need and pressing demand for a comfortable and convenient house of worship, and that on a new and more suitable site. For forty-two years Otterbein Church has been a vital force in the moral and spiritual assets of the city, having won over five thousand souls to an open confession of faith in Jesus, to say nothing of as many more who were secretly led to a life hid with Christ in God, one fifth of whom are estimated to be active members of other churches in the city. Moreover, on questions of moral reform and

civic righteousness, including the prompt payment of all sums assessed to her for their support, even when they seemed out of proportion to her limited means and membership, this church has never failed to meet the demands of those who had charge of these great interests. Notwithstanding one unfortunate administration, and also a recent organized disaffection, which finally took from the rolls of the church and Sunday School more than a hundred members, the moral and spiritual resources of the congregation today are full of promise. More than one hundred of the best people of the city are enrolled in her membership. That alone is an inspiration! For ten such persons God would have spared Sodom. What will he not do for a hundred pious persons, if they place their hands in His and ask to be led? I trust He will thus lead us into closer fellowship with Himself, and into the soul-sympathy of the community at large, upon whom we must depend for material aid, and thence into a new and more suitable sanctuary, and through these channels to glory! Amen.

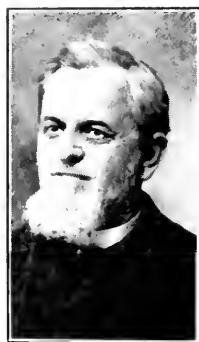
WOMAN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY

This organization has been in existence for some years, and has always been a substantial help to the woman's work in a financial way, as well as an inspiration to the congregation, not only in that department of church life and labor, but also in every other way. The officers are these: President, Mrs. Clara M. Brane; Vice-President, Mrs. Mary Deysher; Secretary, Mrs. Clara Behm; Treasurer, Mrs. Howard Wisler. Collectors: Mrs. Goas, Mrs. Agnes Schaffer, Mrs. Howard Davies, Mrs. Mary Deysher. There are about thirty members in all.

The Young Ladies' Missionary Society has about twenty-five members. The officers are: President, Miss Bessie Snyder; Vice-President, Miss Beckie Gehret; Secretary, Miss Grace M. Brane; Treasurer, Miss Jessie M. Brane. Collectors, Miss Carrie Troutman, Miss Mary Wisler, Miss Beckie Gehret.

REV. J. R. MEREDITH

THE subject of this sketch was born in Benvenue, Dauphin County, Penn'a, July 26, 1840; and a few months later his parents moved to Powels Valley, where they resided until 1852, when they moved to Matamoras, Dauphin County, Penn'a, where the business of general merchandise was entered upon. Young Meredith helped his father in the store until he was 14 years old. Then his father hired him to a boat captain as a driver, which business he followed for eight years. He also worked on a farm. His educational opportunities were very limited, the school term lasting only four months. But the boy was fond of reading, and by the time he was twenty-one he had gained a large stock of general information. In 1859 an aunt took young Meredith to Altoona, where he became the pupil of Rev. A. H. Sembower, who is now a resident of Reading. The following spring he returned to his home, and was employed in various ways. June 23, 1861, he married Miss Mary C. Hiney, and soon thereafter went to teaching school, which profession he followed for several years. Mr. Meredith also served as a soldier in the Civil War, after which he returned to Powels Valley and went to keeping store. While thus engaged, he felt called to the ministry, and was licensed in 1868 at Zion U. B. Church, Halifax Circuit. The same year the Presiding Elder, Rev. Ezekiel Light, sent the young preacher to Lykens Circuit as assistant to Rev. Simon Noll. In 1869 he joined the Annual Conference at Mt. Joy, and was sent to Schuylkill Haven, and thereafter as follows: Manheim, Mt. Joy, Annville, Grantville, York, Annville, New Holland, Philadelphia, Steelton, Highspire, Reading and Myerstown. Rev. Meredith is now living in Reading, and is enjoying fairly good health. He is a member of Otterbein Church, which congregation he served as pastor for six years.



Rev. J. R. Meredith

MR. AND MRS. THEODORE DEYSHER

These two persons have long been members of Otterbein Church, and are still active in their relations to its work and worship. Theodore Deysher, who is well known in the city of Reading, was converted January 8, 1862, in St. Peter's M. E. Church, Reading, and five years later he and his wife joined Otterbein U. B. Church, in which congregation they still live and labor for the Master. Mr. Deysher has been active in Christian work ever since his conversion, and has held almost every office in the gift of the church. For a period of forty-one years he has been Superintendent of the Primary Department of the Sunday School. In that sort of work he takes special delight, and has probably arranged and rendered more Sunday School entertainments than any other man in town, and always to full houses. Best of all, Mr. Deysher's life has always been of an exemplary character, justifying his earnest interest

in all movements of moral reform, especially the temperance cause. Although he is not physically strong, there is no let-up in his zeal for the cause. He is one of the oldest and most honored officers of the church.



Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Deysher

School and missionary work. She is a trustee of the parsonage.

MR. AND MRS. ZIEBER

Henry L. Zieber and wife were charter members of Otterbein Church, and are still living. They are among the finest people of Reading. Mr. Zieber was born at the southwest corner of Ninth and Penn Streets, Reading, Penn'a, May 11, 1836. In 1851 he was converted in Salem Evangelical Church; and three months later he was received into Zion's United Brethren Church by Rev. Simeon Noll, under whose powerful sermons and pastoral care many were brought to Christ and into the Church. At that time the Sunday School held two sessions each Sabbath, at 8.30 a.m. and at 1.30 p.m. Both sessions of the school were well attended. Besides the regular church and Sunday School services, cottage prayer meetings were frequently held and largely attended, their songs of joy and shouts of praise sometimes echoing beyond the midnight hour. Mr. Zieber remembers those occasions of joy with increasing delight.



Mr. and Mrs. Henry L. Zieber

In 1856 Miss Annie C. Kuser was converted under Rev. Joseph Young's pastorate, and one year later she became a member of Zion's U. B. Church. That was on New Year's Eve, 1857. That was "a happy new year" to her! Just seven years thereafter, on the 4th of February, 1864, Miss Annie Kuser became the wife of Henry L. Zieber; and from that day to this, a period of forty-four years, these two have walked in blessed fellowship with God and each other, mutually bearing each other's burdens, and also sharing each other's joys. May their evening time and final sunset be bright!

WILLIAM H. BOMGARDNER

The subject of this sketch, William H. Bomgardner, son of George S. and Margaret Bomgardner, was born in East Hanover Township, Lebanon County, Penn'a, October 1, 1852. He was converted in the fall of 1866, at Sherk's old meeting house, under the pastorate of Rev. Henry Hackman. The following spring he was baptized, with a number of others, in Bow Creek, near Grantville, Dauphin County, Penn'a, by Rev. H. V. Mohn. He has since served in almost every official relation in the local churches with which he has been identified, and is at present a member of the Board of Trustees of Otterbein U. B. Church, and is also Secretary of that board. He and his wife and two children, Mary and Ruth, are faithful members of the church. As life-long members of the church these parents have lived and labored for the cause of Christ, and have served in a self-sacrificing way in many instances. May they and their dear children all reach the rest at last!



William H. Bomgardner

SAMUEL WISE



Samuel Wise

Samuel Wise was born and reared in Reading, Penn'a, and was brought up in the faith of the United Brethren in Christ. He was converted in Hummelstown about the year 1857, and some time thereafter returned to Reading and became a regular attendant at Otterbein Church. In 1860 he married Miss Rachel Sands, and soon after removed to Ida Grove, Iowa, where he lived for nineteen years. Mr. Wise became very much attached to his Ida Grove friends, who also esteemed him very highly. As a token of their love and high regard, they presented him with a very valuable gold-headed cane, which he admires very much. Soon after his return from Iowa Mr. Wise suffered the loss of his wife. Although he had been an attendant on the services of

the church for many years, he was not formally received into the church until after his return to Reading, in 1900, since which time he has been a stand-by in the congregation. He is a modest, manly member, with a churchly spirit, liberal and progressive in all his doings in the church, and highly esteemed by all who know him. Moreover, he buys and reads the literature of the Church, and knows something about her work and worship.

MICHAEL SANDS

Michael Sands, son of Aaron and Catharine Sands, was born in Adamstown, Lancaster County, Penn'a, December 2, 1819. He married Miss Hannah Geensemer; and several years later (March 31, 1848) moved to Reading, and settled on the river front. In 1850, just two years after he came to Reading, his wife and three children were drowned in the Schuylkill during a freshet. This dreadful sorrow almost broke his heart, and led him to seek more definitely the comforts of religion; and in the course of a few months he sought and found the Saviour, and straightway became a member of the little church known then as "Weidman's Chapel," which is now Zion's U. B. Church, the oldest society of our denomination in the city. In the social circle of that humble church he met Miss Sabilla Gaul, one of the most modest and devoted members of that congregation, whom he married in 1851. A year later he was elected a member of the first United Brethren board of trustees in the city of Reading. In 1866 he became a charter member of Otterbein U. B. Church, and also served that new congregation as a trustee and as a member of the building committee. He served his church faithfully



Michael Sands

and well, and was a devoted Christian to the day of his death, which occurred in 1872. His son, Mr. Ephraim Sands, a fine man and a faithful Christian, is a member of his father's church and congregation.

IRVIN R. KLINE

This face is a familiar one. Mr. Irvin R. Kline is the official board Treasurer, and is one of the most faithful and efficient officers of the church. He is a quiet, earnest Christian, and always attends to his official duties, and "never misses church." He is engaged in the real estate business. Like his father before him, he is affectionately concerned for the welfare of the church, and exerts a good influence in the community. For twenty-two years he has been a member of Otterbein Church. He is still active and painstaking in all his work.



Irvin R. Kline

MR. AND MRS. WALTER BEHNEY

G. Walter Behney, Superintendent of Otterbein Sunday School, was born April 14, 1870, at Mt. Nebo, Lebanon County, Penn'a. He was converted in Salem United Brethren Church, Lebanon, Penn'a, in February, 1888, and the same year became a member of the Centenary United Brethren Church in Steelton, Penn'a, which congregation he served as President of the Y. P. C. U., Sunday School teacher and church organist. In June, 1905, he came to Reading and immediately joined Otterbein U. B. Church by certificate; and a little later he was elected Superintendent of the Sunday School, which position he still holds.



Mr. and Mrs. Walter Behney

On the 27th of October, 1892, Mr. Behney was married to Miss Clara F. Hoopes, who has proved a blessed helpmeet to her husband. Last year their two children, Earl and Esther, accepted Christ and united with the church. As a family they are churchly and spiritual, and regular in their attendance upon the services of the sanctuary.

TWO BROTHERS

These two were brothers. Emerson G. Kline was born May 21, 1842, and died August 5, 1894, aged 52 years, 2 months and 15 days. He was converted and joined the church under the ministry of Rev. H. C. Phillips in 1881, and continued in faithful fellowship with the church thirteen years. He was official board Treasurer seven years, and also served the church as Steward and Trustee. His widow, Mrs. Lovenia Kline, and several of his children, Mrs. Riffert, Mrs. Schetter and Mr. Irvin R. Kline, are members of the church.



Emerson G. Kline



Joseph Kline

Mr. Joseph Kline was born in Baums-town, Penn'a, and died July 28, 1905, aged 61 years. He was converted and joined the church during the pastorate of Rev. H. C. Phillips, and remained a faithful member and Christian to the day of his death, having served the congregation as Steward and Trustee. Being a good man, a kind father and husband, he is greatly missed by his

widow and daughter, Mrs. Catharine Kline and Mrs. Ella Knipe, and other relatives and friends. But they all hope to meet him in "Father's house."

DR. MATHEWS

Dr. James M. Mathews, probably the oldest physician in Reading, residing at 138 North Eighth Street, never formally joined Otterbein Church, but in every practical and spiritual respect he is an esteemed member of that congregation. Soon after the writer came to this parish, more than two years ago, he became acquainted with Dr. Mathews, whose great age and serious illness called for special interest and sympathy on the part of the pastor, whose ministry was constant and kind, and finally led to his public avowal and faith in Jesus in the use of the Holy Communion, which sacramental service he regularly attends. If he lives till February 22, 1909, he will be 92 years old. He was born in New Britian Township, Bucks County, Penn'a, February 22, 1817. In 1840 he removed to Flintwood, Berks County, and in 1860 to Temple. Since 1895 he has lived in Reading. He is a well-preserved man, notwithstanding the exposures of thirty-five years, during which time he had a large practice. Intellectually cultivated and widely read, he is interesting and instructive in his fellowship, and exemplifies an up-to-date, youthful spirit. His wife died some years ago. To Dr. and Mrs. Mathews eight sons were born, five of whom are living. Four are physicians of prominence, active and influential in their professional relations. Nearly two years ago, when the Doctor was ninety, he composed these words:



Dr. James M. Mathews

WHEN I WOULD DIE

I'm very old, yet would not die,
And have my bones in slumber lie,
Until I know some things are done
Whose doing is but just begun.
I'd like to know our eastern sea
I had kissed her western majesty
At Panama and Colon's gate,
And let our ships, both small and great,
Pass through Dame Nature's narrow strait.
Would then I die? Not yet, not yet!
My heart on other themes is set.
I'd like to see the airships fly
Athwart the clear or cloudy sky.
With or against all winds that blow,
With or against all rains and snow;
Sailing through the angry clouds,
Bearing safely human crowds
From place to place, from town to town,
Now high aloft, now coming down,
Now taking on, now letting go
Its hurrying crowds bent to and fro.

I tell you, Cap, I must be there,
By 2 o'clock I must be there,
Some hours ahead of that slow poke—
That belches forth its cinder smoke—
The iron horse whose murderous noise
Kills off the sick, the well annoys.
Some better is the trolley ride,
Ten times as good the airships glide.
And then you'd willing die? Not I;
You soon shall see when I would die.
I want to see all warring cease,
I want to see the reign of peace,
I want to see "Thy kingdom come,"
The thousands years millennium,
Then heaven will be upon this earth
And every creature have new birth.
Then, sure, you'd willing die? But why
Would one in glory wish to die?
O wondrous, wondrous are to be
The achievements of futurity.

December, 1906.

—J. M. M.

THE ASSOCIATE PASTOR

THIS face and form are dear to the Pastor. For a period of six years he has been my closest companion in the home, in the study, in the church services, and in my pastoral visiting. By day and by night his little hand has been in mine. When I was sick, he helped to make me well; when I was stricken with sorrow, he soothed my soul; when I was borne to the earth with care, he lightened my load; when I was tempted, he succored me. Indeed, he has been my good angel! With me he has gone into the mansions of the rich and the hovels of the poor, and visited thousands of sick and sorrowing people, supplementing the ministry of the Lord's Prayer and the Twenty-third Psalm with his sweet smiles and kisses. From his birth, in solemn dedication and daily prayer, he has been given to God and the Church! May his feet never wander from the path of the Just. My highest desire concerning him would be realized if he should become a faithful minister of the Gospel—the hardest but the sweetest work to which, in the providence of God, the children of men are called.

In speaking of my baby boy Mayor Marquart, of Lebanon, whose pastor I was for ten blessed years, has this to say: "My most distinct recollections of Dennis are the impressions he made upon all our minds in the church services. He always came with his father to prayer meeting, occupied a front seat, and seemed to take as much interest in what was said and done as any of the older persons did. Our church and parsonage being connected, Dr. Brane always entered the auditorium near the pulpit, immediately in front of the congregation while they stood and sang an inspiring ascription of praise. Dennis usually entered with his father and stood, in full view of all the people, with folded hands and bowed head during the invocation, after which he took his seat on a front pew, where he remained till the benediction was pronounced. At the close of the service he was always cordially greeted by the people, especially the young ladies, with whom he was a favorite. These acts of love and reverence for the house and service of God on the part of



The Associate Pastor

one so tender in years was very impressive, and vividly recalled the Bible story of little Samuel. I trust that his reverence for God's house and for sacred things will increase as he grows older, so that when Dr. Brane's long and faithful ministry is over, his mantle may fall upon Dennis, and he be led to carry forward this blessed work as conscientiously as his father did."

JACOB STONER



Jacob Stoner

Mr. Jacob Stoner was born near Safe Harbor, Lancaster County, Penn'a, October 16, 1838; and was converted and joined Otterbein U. B. Church during the blessed administration of Rev. Lewis Peters in 1868. He is now one of the older members of the church, and considers himself fortunate in having enjoyed her fellowship all these years. He has served the congregation as class leader, Trustee, Steward and Sunday School Superintendent. Mr. Stoner's life has been a credit to the cause of religion, and his influence in the church has been good. He considers himself a typical United Brethren, "all wool and a yard wide," and is increasingly happy as the shadows of life lengthen. He and his family are striving for a better inheritance. His son Clay, and his good wife and dear children, Erma and Kise, are members of the church also.

MRS. DELIA M. HERNER

Mrs. Herner has been in faithful fellowship with Otterbein Church ever since she was a tot of two years. When she was only eight years old she was received into the church by Rev. H. C. Phillips; and from that day to this she has been a faithful Christian and an active worker in the church and Sunday School. For nine years she served as Secretary of the Sunday School; and she is now serving her second year as Recording Secretary of the Berks County Christian Endeavor Union. In this sort of work Mrs. Herner is especially gifted and faithful. Her books are well kept and clearly written. She and her mother, Mrs. Shadell, and her two boys, Clyde and Paul, have been reared in the Sunday School and church.



Mrs. Delia M. Herner

MISS BERTHA NEIZEL

Miss Neizel is one of the officers of the church and Sunday School. She is a young lady of wide and blessed influence in the congregation and in the city. Moreover, she is active and enterprising in her relations to Christian work and worship, faithful and painstaking in all her efforts to be good and do good. She has comparatively little to say, but her life is an illustrated

sermon on holy living; an exemplification of the truth as it is in Jesus. Her godly life and sweet spirit and faithful service are bound to bring the Master's plaudit, "Well done."

ERMA DAVIES

Erma Davies, child of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis O. Davies, is one of our interesting "tots." She is only three years old, attends church and Sunday School, and sometimes "talks out in meeting." But she don't disturb the pastor, who is always glad to see her. She calls him "church."

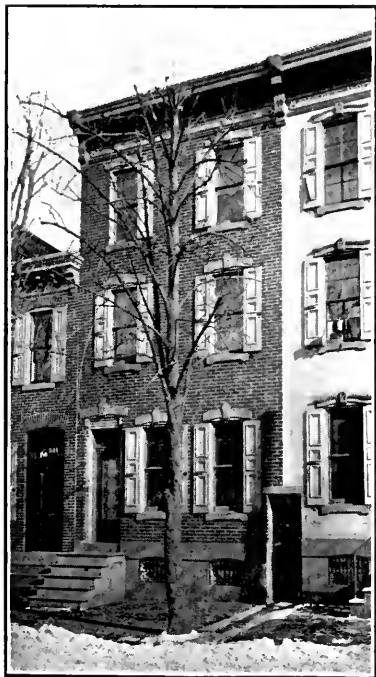


Erma Davies

MISS ESTHER WERTS' CLASS

Allen Diller, Earl Behney, Merlin Goas, Paul Herner, Howard Wisler, Hayes Vernon, L. Kise Stoner, Charles Zell, E. Harvey Long.

THE PARSONAGE



The Parsonage

This is a picture of the parsonage, located at 519 North Ninth Street. The deed was executed on the 31st of March, 1887, by Sarah E. Hoffman, Mahlon G. Hoffman and Lucien Geiger, executors of John G. Hoffman, deceased, to Jacob Stoner, Jacob S. Wisler, Emerson Kline, Joseph Kline and Abraham Landis, trustees of Otterbein U. B. Church, for \$2,500. In connection with a gradual increase in the value of the property, improvements to the extent of \$1,500 have been added. It is splendidly located in every way. Of the original board of trustees only one remains, Mr. Jacob Stoner.

Every church and parsonage should be well located, attractive and convenient, a joy to those who use it and a credit to the community in which it is situated. Then it will speak in terms of praise, not only of those who own and occupy it, but also of the cause for which it stands. Its very design, in point of appearance and purpose, should be pleas-

ing and persuasive, tending to the culture of head and heart. Indeed, every thing we look upon or associate with is educating in its influence and effects. A pure rose on an untidy table will suggest a clean cloth. A clean cloth will demand a still better environment, and thus the good work will go on to completion.



PARSONAGE TRUSTEES



CLASS OF MR. SPATZ AND MISS BERTHA NEIZEL



PRIMARY CLASS

AARON STROHECKER

Aaron Strohecker was born in Reading, Penn'a, September 24, 1839, and has been a member of the church for twenty-one years. His conversion in



Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Strohecker

Otterbein Church was very clear and satisfactory, leaving no doubt of his acceptance in Jesus Christ. His influence as a Christian is truly wholesome; and his devotion to the church has been marked by an intelligent concern for all her interests. His wife, who appears with her husband in the accompanying cut, was also an earnest Christian. She was a true helpmeet. She was the daughter of Rev. Jacob S. Gosler. They were married July 4, 1860, by Rev. J. G. Fritz, since which glad occasion they prayerfully lived for God and each other till December 29, 1907, when she fell asleep. She knew of her approaching end, and died in perfect peace. Just a few days later her son-in-law, Milton F. Bear, was called from labor to reward. For Brother Strohecker and Sister Bear these losses were hard to endure. But they will soon meet again.

Mr. Strohecker was an expert swimmer and diver, and was instrumental in saving ten lives, including one soldier. The saving of the soldier occurred at Harrisburg in 1862, while he was in the army.

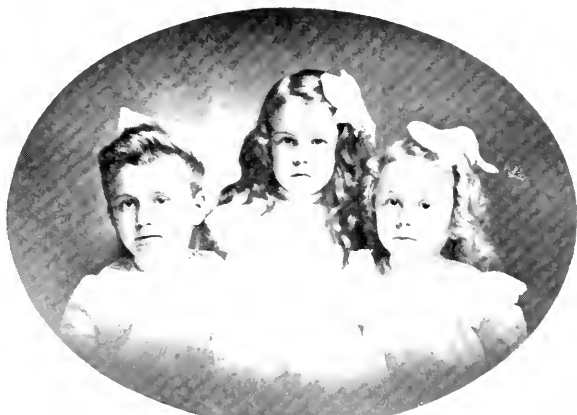
In 1850, when Mr. Strohecker was still in his "teens," there was a great freshet in the Schuylkill River, and Mrs. Michael Sands and three of her children were drowned. Young Strohecker was standing at the foot of Sixth Street, and saw Mrs. Sands drift down the swollen stream on a feather-bed. She waved her hand for help. Abram Homan and Nicholas Burkhart wanted to take a boat that was there and go for Mrs. Sands, but the man who owned the boat would not permit them to use it. Strohecker wanted the men to take the boat and rescue her. Then Mr. Sands himself came down the stream, and Mr. Strohecker drew him out and saved his life.

A few days later Mr. Strohecker was at High's Woods, and swam across to the island, where he saw a little white hand sticking out of some *debris* that had been washed there during the freshet. It was the sweet little hand of Mr. Sands' baby, which young Strohecker put in the lid of an old trunk, which he used as a boat, and, using a grape-vine for a cable, towed it up the canal to "Jackson's lot," where he placed the dead child in the care of Mrs. Stott, who took it to the bereaved father and prepared it for burial.

So, you see, young Strohecker saved Mr. Sands' life, and subsequently restored the body of his dead baby to his tender care. How strange is life!

WE ARE THREE

Here is an interesting trio—Miriam, Ruth and Naomi, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Reist. They all belong to the church of Christ and are a great joy to their parents. Some four years ago, December 10, 1904, Miriam, the one to the left, took sick and died—was called by the Good Shepherd to the safe and blessed fold above. But Ruth and Naomi still recall her sweet face and familiar form, and so do they all. They expect to meet her again.



We Are Three

MISS MARY C. WISE

Miss Wise has been identified with Otterbein Church for some years, and is one of our most interested and active members. She is one of the Trustees of the parsonage, and also one of the Stewards, in both of which relations she has served faithfully and well. In her anxiety for the welfare of the congregation she devises liberal things for the Lord, both in money and in labor. Nothing is too hard for her to do. In the Sunday School and Ladies' Aid, and Trustee meetings and church services her seat is rarely vacant.



Miss Mary C. Wise

JOHN F. HUMELSINE

Mr. Humelsine was born in Chambersburg, Penn'a, September 11, 1872, and was brought up in the faith of the United Brethren Church. On the 18th of September, 1894, he was married to Miss Elizabeth T. Weeks, in Hagerstown, Md., by the Rev. A. A. Ayers. Mrs. Humelsine is the daughter of Mrs. Annie Long, who formerly lived in Shipensburg, Penn'a, but is now a resident of Reading and a worthy member of Otterbein Church. About the year 1902 Mr. and Mrs. Humelsine came to Reading and joined Memorial U. B. Church. In 1905 they transferred their membership to Otterbein, in whose communion they have each led an



John F. Humelsine

active, useful life. Mr. Humelsine is the President of the Ushers' League, and is popular with the young men of the church. Mrs. Humelsine is Assistant Organist in the Sunday School, and is active in the work of the church.

MR. AND MRS. LONG

Mr. George Elmer Long was born in Dauphin County, Penn'a, October 11, 1864; and twenty-two years later, on the 11th of September, 1886, he



Mr. and Mrs. Long

married Miss Alice M. Long, Rev. Isaac Bagley, of Camden, New Jersey, being the officiating clergyman. A year later Mr. Long and his wife were converted and joined the United Brethren Church at Royalton, Penn'a, under Rev. H. D. Lehman. In 1892 they came to Reading, Penn'a, and identified themselves with what is now called Memorial U. B. Church, Buttonwood and McKnight Streets, where

they served efficiently for several years. On the 29th of September, 1907, Mr. and Mrs. Long, and their son Harvey united with Otterbein U. B. Church. Mr. Long is an officer in the Sunday School, and the family are all regular in their attendance at all the services.

Their son Harvey is gifted in a musical way, and plays beautifully. If he gives himself completely to this charming accomplishment, and avails himself of a thorough training, he will certainly do well. At Mr. Sterner's birthday surprise party he entertained the large company most delightfully with selections on the piano.

MR. AND MRS. FORD

Mr. Edward F. Ford is a "railroad man," and is often "called out" at the very time when he would like to go to church; but he quietly keeps company with the Master, whether at home or "on the road," and thus pursues the path of the just. His wife, Mrs. Laura Ford, is also an earnest Christian, full of zeal for the furtherance of the Gospel, especially in a missionary sense and in foreign lands. Mr. and Mrs. Ford and their little daughter, Elizabeth, are highly esteemed in the church and Sunday School to which they belong; and their influence is responsive to the cause of Christ.



E. Harvey Long

SIRE AND SON

Mr. Jacob S. Wisler was born in White Oak, Lancaster County, Penn'a, October 9, 1844, and came to Reading in 1864. On September 28, 1865, he was married to Miss Mary C. Sands by Rev. Brewer at Hummelstown. In 1865 he entered upon the manufacture of cigars, and continued in that business till his death, which occurred June 18, 1894. Mr. Wisler was converted in the fall of 1867, under Rev. Lewis Peters, and joined Otterbein U. B. Church. He was a useful man in the church, and served in various official capacities: General Steward, Church Treasurer, and also served the Conference as Treasurer. His widow, Mrs. Mary Wisler, still lives in the enjoyment of fair health and regularly attends the services of the sanctuary. She is spending her remaining days pleasantly with her daughter, Mrs. L. J. Coyle, and her son Charles, both of whom are members of the church.

Mr. Howard W. Wisler is a son of Jacob S. Wisler, and has been prominent in the affairs of the church for a number of years. He was converted in 1882 under Rev. H. C. Phillips, and joined church the same year. Since then he has been active in the work of the church, serving in almost every official capacity—Chorister, General Steward, Delegate to Conference, Treasurer and President of the Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor. He has lots of push and enterprise in his church life, and is one of the hardest workers that the congregation has. On the 24th of June,



Jacob S. Wisler



Howard W. Wisler

1890, Mr. Wisler was married to Miss C. Geneva Maitland by Rev. I. Baltzell. To these parents were born two children, Mary W. and "Little Howard," as his mother affectionately calls him, both of whom have been brought up in the church. Mrs. Wisler is a quiet Christian lady of deep piety, an ideal house-keeper and a real helpmeet. She is a member of the Board of Parsonage Trustees, Treasurer of the Woman's Missionary Society, and quietly aids all the other organizations of the congregation. Her larger ministry is in the home, where she combines the qualities of Mary and Martha.

MR. AND MRS. McCARTY

Abraham McCarty was born in Lancaster County, Penn'a, September 10, 1860. He and Mrs. McCarty were married December 12, 1878, by Rev. A.



Mr. and Mrs. McCarty

W. Warfel. About twenty years ago they were converted near Intercourse and joined the old Monterey Church. Later they came to Hinkletown, and thence, in 1907, to Reading. January the 5th, 1908, they transferred their membership from Ephrata to Otterbein, where they are loved and appreciated by the whole church. Their daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Weinhold, are also

members of the congregation. May their joy and usefulness increase as the years go by!

REV. J. B. FUNK

This minister was the fifth pastor of Otterbein Church, having served from 1878 to 1880. It was under his directing hand that the old chapel was remodeled and enlarged. Rev. and Mrs. Funk are old friends of the writer, who learned to know them when he was a boy preacher. Mr. Funk is a native of Virginia and Mrs. Funk of Maryland. I once served Brother Funk as Presiding Elder, right on the summit of the Allegheny Mountains, and ate buckwheat cakes with him. He sent me one after I returned home. It was a "whopper." My! Well, well, that was in 1875. How time flies, and how soon we grow old. Of course, we do not grow old in *spirit*. Only in years and in physical infirmities.



Rev. J. B. Funk and Wife

REV. JACOB S. GOSLER

Mr. Gosler was born December 5, 1807, and died April 26, 1882. On the 6th of July, 1827, he married Miss Margaret Moyer. He was one of the



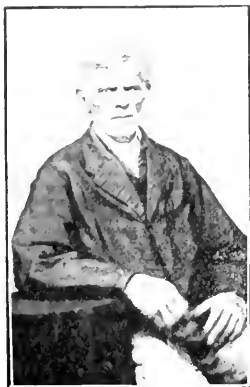
Rev. J. S. Gosler

most active and influential members of Zion U. B. Church, South Ninth Street, sixty years ago. Mr. Gosler was the first Superintendent of Zion Sunday School, and also one of the original Board of Trustees. In my intercourse with the aged members and friends of the United Brethren Church in Reading, I hear him more frequently and tenderly spoken of than any one else. He is said to have possessed a meek and quiet spirit, an affectionate nature, a lovely character and a holy zeal for souls, and usually won for Christ those with whom he mingled. His sermons were models of spiritual sweetness and power, and his matter was always sound and sensible. In prayer he was especially gifted, often moving the whole audience to tears by his touching appeals to God for spiritual grace and power, as he also did by his melting Gospel sermons, some of which were aglow with an holy unction. To some of his children and grand-

children the same spirit of grace and goodness has been given. In the hearts of his son Jacob and the late Mrs. Margaret Strohecker the same Saviour of love was born. On the anniversary of his seventy-second birthday, December 5, 1879, his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren tendered him a birthday surprise party. They met at the home of Brother Aaron Strohecker, 125 Rose Street, and from there they went in a body to the minister's home, 117 North Third Street. When the large company had entered and packed the parlor, Rev. Gosler was called. When he opened the door and saw a sea of upturned faces, each one reflecting the sunshine of love and good cheer, the aged man was so overcome that he could not speak. His lips quivered and the big tears ran down over his face! His cup ran over. He was overcome with joy. Finally he said, "Let us pray." He led in prayer, and such a prayer as he made! It is to be hoped that no one present will ever forget it. Then Rev. David Hoffman, also of precious memory, delivered a beautiful address in behalf of the company, about fifty in all, presenting their love and greetings and good wishes to the faithful minister. A blessed social season followed.

While Rev. Gosler was conducting a feet-washing service in the barn of Rev. Solomon Weidman at Sinking Spring, a singular interruption occurred. The barn was crowded with people, it being the annual Whitsuntide meeting, and the children were given seats in the hay-mow to make room for older persons on the barn floor. Just when the meeting reached the climax of in-

terest a large portion of hay, upon which the children were seated in the mow, slumped down, children and all, upon the heads of the people and ended the service.



Rev. Solomon Weidman
father, father and son.

REV. SOLOMON WEIDMAN

Rev. Solomon Weidman, son of Rev. Joseph Weidman, was born in Brecknock Township, Berks County, Penn'a, February 13, 1807, and died at Sinking Spring January 27, 1871. He pioneered the cause of United Brethrenism in the city of Reading seventy-five years ago, and became the founder of Zion's U. B. Church on South Ninth Street. He erected a small frame chapel on the rear of the lot on which the church now stands, and paid for it. Rev. B. B. Weidman, of Sinking Spring, is a son of Rev. Solomon Weidman, making the third minister in the line of descent from a noble sire—grand-



Mark R. Quinter

MR. MARK R. QUINTER

Mr. Quinter is one of Reading's up-to-date barbers. He came from Schuylkill Haven more than a year ago, and joined Otterbein Church. On the 17th of November, 1908, he was married by Rev. Dr. C. I. B. Brane, to Miss Mary N. Reppert, also of Schuylkill Haven, at their new home, 112 Oley Street. Mr. and Mrs. Quinter are fine young people, churchly and pious, and promise to be stand-bys in the church through the years to come.

WILSON D. B. SPATZ



W. D. B. Spatz

Mr. Spatz was born at Temple, Berks County, Penn'a, August 5, 1872; and on the 24th of December, 1898, he was married to Miss Bessie S. Hunsberger, at the parsonage of the Reformed Union Church at Tuckerton, Penn'a, by Rev. Danner. He was converted during the winter of 1902, and joined Otterbein Church on Easter morning, Rev. J. R. Meredith being the pastor. Mr. Spatz is one of the Trustees of the church, and teaches an Intermediate class of young ladies numbering twenty members. Mrs. Spatz is also a member of the church. The children, five in number, are bright and promising, and a joy to the parents.

THEY COME NO MORE

Mrs. Clara Hurst comes no more to church, because she is afflicted with rheumatism. Mrs. Hurst is a true Christian and a faithful member of the church. She would gladly come to the services if she could. The pastor visits her often because she is so painfully afflicted. The Lord is her Shepherd.



Mrs. Clara Hurst



Mrs. Julia A. Spears

Mrs. Julia A. Spears, *nee* Yeagley, came to Reading about 1868 from Womelsdorf, and entered Otterbein Church during Rev. Peters' pastorate. She has been true and faithful to God and the church, and is too feeble to attend the services of the church. But she is happy and hopeful in the faith of the Son of God, who is with her still.

This faithful member only gets to church occasionally, because she is not well and has far to the church. But her heart is there every Sunday. Mrs. Russel, whose maiden name was Wootten, came from England to Reading when she was a child. She joined the church under Rev. Peters, and has been faithful to her vows. She was very good to her parents, as she is to everybody. She is the wife of Samuel Russel.



Mrs. Betty Russel



Mrs. Elizabeth L. Zell

This one comes no more because she has gone home to Father's house. Mrs. Elizabeth L. Zell was a charter member of Otterbein Church, and died January 21, 1905. She was faithful to the last.

These two were prominent members of the congregation years ago. Mr. Lessig was one of the Trustees to whom the deed of the church property was made.



Samuel Lessig



Sarah Lessig



Harry E. Wolfskill

Sarah Lessig, his faithful wife, also served well in her day and generation. They have gone to their reward in heaven. Mrs. Sallie Lessig, one of our most faithful members, is the daughter-in-law of Mr. and Mrs. Lessig.

This dear young man, Harry E. Wolfskill, died unexpectedly soon. He was formerly a member of our church and Sunday School, and was loved by all who knew him. But he was a model Christian, and therefore ready when the Master called. They miss him at home.

MISS ALBERTA LOOSE

Miss Loose is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George A. Loose, and has been a Christian from childhood. As a church member she is careful and conscientious, and tries hard to exemplify the spiritual meaning of her profession. She is an official member of the church, and one of the best teachers in the Sunday School, where she has a fine Junior class of twenty-five girls, each of whom she loves and looks after most faithfully. Indeed, no one can do more than she strives to achieve for her scholars, both individually and as a class. Then, too, her example is good and her influence constraining. It is pleasant to see her surrounded by her "girls," especially when each one is



Miss Alberta Loose

"hanging on her words" in class. During her father's absence from home Miss Loose is a great comfort to her invalid mother, who knows what affliction means.



Mrs. Maria Smith Craumer

MRS. MARIA SMITH CRAUMER

The subject of this sketch was born in Beaver Township, Snyder County, Penn'a, in 1837. Soon thereafter her parents moved to Middleburg, Penn'a, where she was reared. She was converted at a camp-meeting near Middleburg in 1852, and immediately joined the United Brethren Church under the ministry of Rev. L. W. Craumer, to whom she was married in 1854 by Rev. Jacob Doerkson, who was a great preacher and a fine man. Rev. Craumer was sent to Dayton, Ohio, soon after his marriage, for a double purpose—to open a German mission and edit the *Botschafter*.

Thereafter Rev. Craumer served many important charges, including a term of six years as Presiding Elder. In 1891 his health failed and his active ministry ceased. But just where he laid down the work his faithful wife took it up, and has served with increasing faithfulness and efficiency from that day to this. She was the first President of the Woman's Missionary Branch of the East German Conference, which was organized by Mrs. Billheimer in Baltimore, Md., in 1879. Mrs. Craumer was one of the pioneer missionary workers of our church. She served several terms as President of the Branch, as Vice-President, as Delegate to the Board meetings in Ohio, Iowa, Maryland and Pennsylvania, and is still associated with the general and local work, giving inspiration to those who now bear the banner that she placed in their hands a few years ago.

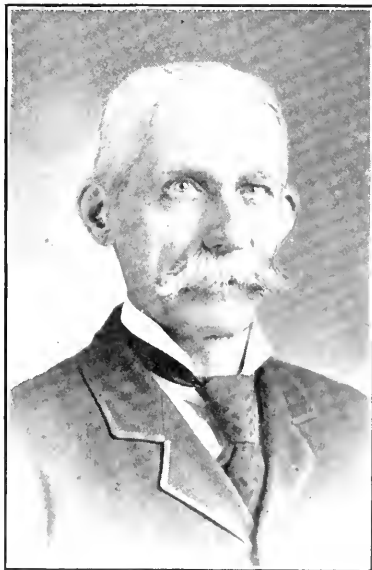
Moreover, Mrs. Craumer has been equally active in the temperance cause, having served officially in the Women's Christian Temperance Union, the Good Templars and the King's Daughters. Indeed, she has been associated with the organized influence of almost every gracious institution. She is an honored member of Zion U. B. Church, this city, and is pleasantly passing her closing years with her son, Mr. Harry S. Craumer. Soon the Master will say, "Well done."

MR. LEVI HIGH

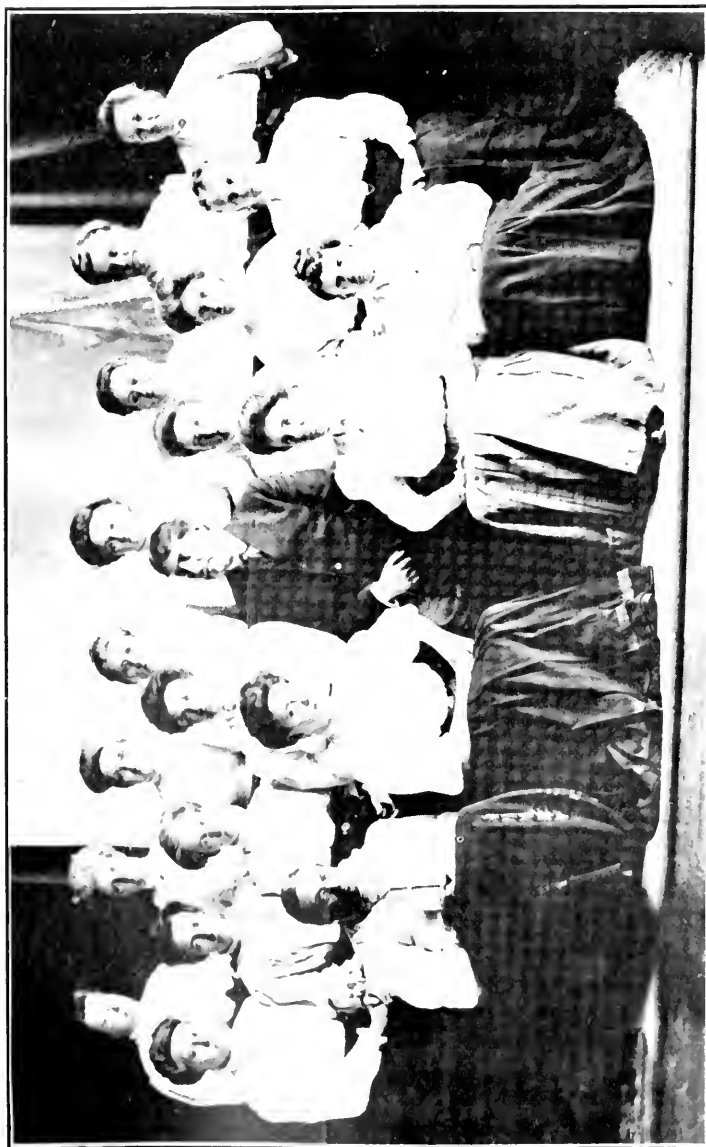
Mr. Levi High was born near Williamsport, Penn'a, and was converted at his home in this city while engaged in reading. He joined Otterbein U. B. Church during the pastorate of Rev. M. P. Doyle in 1887, since which time he has been a faithful member of the congregation. He has been a member of the Board of Trustees for some years, and serves the church otherwise in official relations. Aside from the helpfulness of his daily walk and conversation, Mr. High's church-going habit is an inspiration to pastor and people. He and Mrs. High are invariably in their pew on Sunday, morning and evening, winter and summer, through storm and sunshine. Their interest in the church increases as the years come and go, and soon the Master will say it is enough.

HARRY K. SHAEFFER AND WIFE

Mr. and Mrs. Shaeffer came to Reading from Lancaster County a few years ago. Mr. Shaeffer is a P. & R. conductor. More than two years ago he was seriously injured on the road and spent a year in the hospital. He is now able for his usual trips. His faithful wife, who was Miss Harriet Young, came from one of our best families in Manheim. They have two children, Irene and Clarence. These parents joined Otterbein April 5, 1908.



Mr. Levi High



MR. WISLER'S CLASS

Mrs. Delia M. Herner
Mrs. Hoopes
Miss Sallie Forney
Mrs. Wolfskill

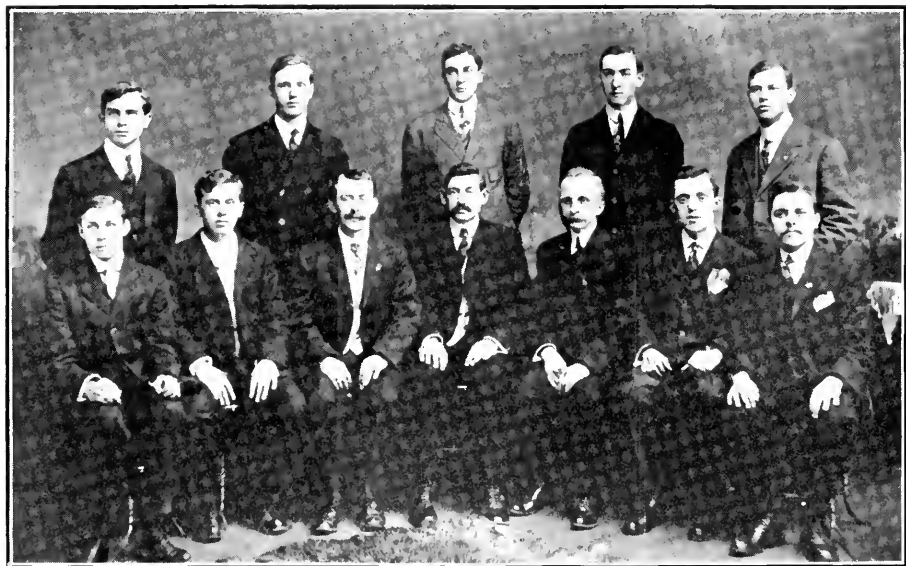
Mrs. A. S. Hoopes
Mrs. G. W. Behney
Mrs. C. Geneva Wisler
Mrs. Annie Clouser

Mr. Howard W. Wisler
Mrs. Emma Geas
Miss Louisa M. Hedrick
Mrs. Louisa Shadell

Mrs. Agnes Shaeffer
Mrs. A. M. Behm
Mrs. Wm. H. Bomgardner
Mrs. Alice M. Long

Mrs. Belle Zell
Mrs. Abraham McCarty
Mrs. Sallie Sterner
Mrs. Clara Sherker

SOME MEMBERS OF THE USHERS LEAGUE



President, John F. Humelsine; Vice-President, Adam M. Behm; Secretary, James R. Werts; Treasurer, Lewis O. Davies. Members, Howard S. Sterner, Walter F. Sterner, Roy O. Bomgardner, Roscoe H. Brane, C. Walter Moyer, Raymond V. B. Strausser, Mark R. Quinter, Hilbert G. Diller, Noah Good, William I. Kline, Earl R. Kline, E. Harvey Long, Kise Stoner, Charles Zell and Howard Wisler. The League meets the first Monday evening of each month for the transaction of business, when each Usher receives some special assignment for service for that month.

THE STERNERS

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Sterner are among our most substantial members; and their children, William, Walter, Howard and Russel, are all interested in the congregation, the two latter, Howard and Russel, being members also. Parents and children are religiously faithful and worthy. They came to Otterbein some years ago from Trinity Church, Lebanon, where their present pastor went in and out among them, and then, as, now, received the greatest kindness at their hands, including an occasional loaf of home-made bread, which Mrs. Sterner knows how to prepare and bake. Howard and Walter belong to the Ushers League, and are otherwise helpful to the church.

OUR "SHUT-INS"

I wish all our people were well in body, but my wish does not make it so. It is hard to be afflicted. Indeed, it is hard for those who are perfectly well to see the painful afflictions of others. The following of our number are

"shut in" by reason of sickness. Some of them will soon be out, we hope; others will not get well: Mrs. Emma Kline, Mrs. Clara Hurst, Miss Annie E. Neizel, Mrs. Ida Heim, Mrs. Rachel Bowers, Mrs. Rebecca Bingaman, Mrs. Annie Werts, Mrs. Emma Loose and Mrs. Henry Zieber.

THE DAVIES FAMILY

There are three generations of the Davies family connected with Otterbein Church. Mr. Howard Davies was converted January 1, 1868, and joined



The Davies Family

the church the following Sunday, which was the first Sunday in January, 1868. His wife, Mary L. Davies, *nee* Ranck, joined the congregation by certificate from the U. B. Church at Inter-course, Penn'a, of which she had been a member from childhood, in 1873. Lewis Oliver Davies, their son, was converted during Rev. H. C. Phillips' administration at the tender age of seven years, and was received into the church by Rev. M. P. Doyle in 1885. Another son, Chas. Ranck Davies, who died October

21, 1889, was also converted and joined church at the same time. Annie Debinder Davies, wife of Mr. Lewis O. Davies, joined Otterbein Church by certificate from Grace Evangelical Church in 1900. Their children, Herbert W. and Erma Lee Ella, are regular attendants of the church and Sunday School. Mr. Howard Davies has served as teacher, Librarian, Secretary (Quarterly Conference and Sunday School), Steward and class leader. His wife has been active and useful in the Ladies Aid and Woman's Missionary Societies, serving as Treasurer. She is Vice-President of the Ladies Aid Society, and a willing all-around worker for the church. Mr. Lewis O. Davies was Sunday School Secretary for some years, and is now the Treasurer of the Ushers League. Mrs. Lewis O. Davies is a faithful worker wherever she can help the cause. She is a quiet woman with many home cares, as all mothers are, but manages to attend most of the church and Sunday School services, including the midweek prayer meeting. By the way, how much good we all may do by simply giving the sanctuary services the benefit of our presence. What an influence our mere presence at the sanctuary exerts on others, even though our home duties prevent us from assuming prominence in the work of the church.



MR. SMITH AND MISS BUTTS' CLASS



MISS LOOSE'S CLASS

Edith P. Berg, Helen C. Reeser, Minnie F. Good, Anna Shade, Edna Scott, Emma Martin, Bessie Gresh, Larans Riffert, Etta M. Brane, Margaret C. Goas, Erma W. Stoner, Wyrle H. Heffner, Ruth E. Reist, Ivy Leibelsperger, Lizzie Fick, Marie S. Schearer, Katharine M. Herm, Sallie S. Hughes, Edna M. Heffner, Alberta M. Loose.

MR. ADAM M. BEHM

The subject of this sketch was born and raised in Annville, Penn'a, where he was converted and joined the church during a series of meetings in that town in 1884. In the year 1889, on the 12th of June, he was united in marriage to Miss Clara V. R. Mark by Rev. Job Light. Ten years later Mr. and Mrs. Behm came to Reading, and straightway transferred their membership to Otterbein U. B. Church, where they still work and worship. Mrs. Behm is a daughter of the late Rev. J. H. Mark, and is a parsonage trustee and an officer in the Woman's Missionary Society. Mr. Behm has been a Sunday School teacher, Secretary of the Quarterly Conference, and is a member of the church Trustees and Vice-President of the Ushers League. Mr. and Mrs. Behm are among the more active members of the congregation, taking part in all the activities of the church, including the special doings of the several societies, and are rarely absent from church or Sunday School services, except on account of sickness. They have one child, but he is in heaven.



Adam M. Behm

THE EDES FAMILY



The Edes Family

Mrs. Caroline Edes and her two children, Oliver L. and Esther, were among the most active and faithful members of Otterbein Church some years ago. They were very hospitable people, and often constrained poor or strange people who attended the services of the church to go home with them for a meal. They were also very helpful in their counsel to penitents during revival meetings, and in looking after the interests of young converts, many of whom they saved to Christ and the church. Mr. Oliver Edes was a Trustee of the church, and also led the congregation in singing. Miss Esther was a fine Sunday School teacher and a sweet singer. Their home was ideal. They were affectionate, kind-hearted and true to each other and to everybody. Rev. Lewis Peters and many others could never forget their hospital-

ity, nor Mother Edes' "down east" way of baking beans. But one by one they have gone home to glory; and the memory of their loving deeds inspire us to strive to meet them where congregations ne'er break up and Sabbaths have no end.

EBB N. ZELL



Ebb N. Zell

The subject of this sketch, the well known jeweler of North Ninth Street, is a native of Reading, Penn'a, where he was born May 12, 1866, which makes him just as old as Otterbein Church, with which he has been identified from childhood. He was converted in Otterbein Church in 1880, and baptized in the Schuylkill River in 1883, by Rev. M. P. Doyle. In 1888 Mr. Zell was married to Miss Mary Emma Beyler, daughter of Daniel and Margaretta Beyler, of Reading. To these parents have been born three children, Alma, Erma and Norma. Mr. Zell is a well known, up-to-date jeweler, and conducts a prosperous business on North Ninth Street. In his business and religious life Mr. Zell is upright and reliable, and enjoys the esteem of his brethren in the church. His sainted mother is tenderly remembered by the older members of the church as one of the best and most devoted Christians in the church and community. His sister, Mrs. Belle Zell, is also a faithful member of the church

and is helpfully associated with its work in every way.

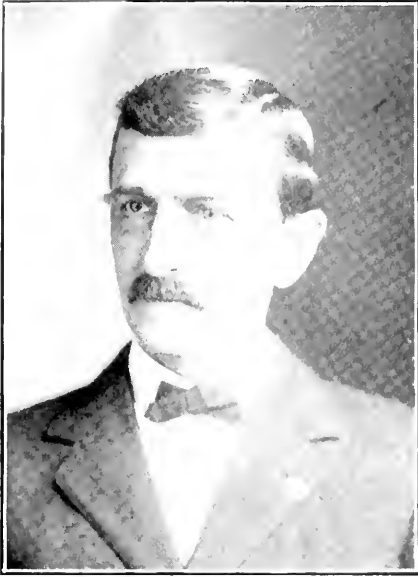
ELMER C. SMITH

Mr. Smith was born in Washington Township, Berks County, Penn'a, October 31, 1874, and came to Reading a few years ago. He learned the art of printing, and is prominently associated with Albright & Shenton in that business. He was converted in 1896, and joined Otterbein Church the same year under Rev. Z. A. Weidler, by whom also he was married to Miss Ella B. Butts December 23, 1897. He is Secretary of the official board, and Treasurer of the Board of Trustees, of which he is also a member. In 1908 he represented the congregation in the Annual Conference, and has been otherwise officially identified with the organized life of the church. Mrs. Smith is an ideal helpmeet and an highly esteemed member of the church; and the chil-



Elmer C. Smith

dren, Virginia and Olga, are members of the "Sunshine" Committee, both at home and in the Sunday School and sanctuary services. The home circle is rendered additionally blessed by the presence of Mrs. Smith's father and sister, Mr. Butts and Miss Minerva, the latter a faithful member of the church and Superintendent of the Juniors. The father is an esteemed member of Memorial U. B. Church. They are all devoted to the church.



James Washington Shaeffer

work and worship. Mr. Shaeffer has been General Steward of the church, and is a member of the Board of Trustees. He is a quiet, modest man, desires no office, and has but little to say, but all the while he is an interested and active member of the church.

MRS. AGNES A. SHAEFFER

Mrs. Shaeffer is the wife of James Washington Shaeffer, and one of the most active



Rev. H. C. Phillips

members of the church. She is a trustee of the parsonage and President of the Ladies Sewing Circle, which meets every Wednesday afternoon and is unusually active this year in the interest of the parsonage debt, which the Circle desires to discharge as soon as possible. To this end Mrs. Shaeffer is pushing the work vigorously.

JAMES WASHINGTON SHAEFFER

Mr. Shaeffer is a native of Schuylkill County, Penn'a, where he was born March 6, 1857. On the 11th of March, 1875, he married Miss Agnes Adelia Snell, of Schuylkill Haven, where he and his young wife embraced religion and joined the United Brethren Church. They came to Reading in 1883; and ten years later they became members of Otterbein Church, and have been increasingly active in its



Mrs. Agnes A. Shaeffer

MRS. MARY MILLER

Mrs. Miller is a native of Berks County, Penn'a. She was converted in 1889 and received into Otterbein Church by the pastor, Rev. M. A. Salt; and was baptized a year or two later in the Schuylkill River at the Penn Street bridge by Rev. H. D. Lehman. Since that time she has been active in Christian work and faithful in the church. Her life has not been all sunshine, but she has found Him faithful who has promised, and loves to sing this song: "Where He leads me I will follow." Soon after her conversion, Mrs. Miller became interested and active in the temperance cause. In 1897 she signed the pledge and became a White Ribboner; and from that day to this she has been a crusader. More than once she has politely requested hotel men not to sell to certain friends of hers, and when she caught them violating their pledge to her and the law governing the act she smashed their bottles and mirrors, and then dared them to touch her! Of course, they kept hands off; but they called her "Carrie Nation." Well, she can smash things after Carrie's fashion, but she carries no hatchet, and is very lady-like and reasonable in her contention against the saloon. But don't let her see you sell on Sunday, or to minors, or to one who is intoxicated, or to an habitual drunkard! If you do, look out!



Mrs. Mary Miller

OTHER MEMBERS

The pastor is sorry that more of the members of the church did not furnish either a cut or a brief biographical sketch for this Souvenir, which will prove a pleasure to all in years to come, as well as in its present perusal. All were invited to do so, both by letter and by personal request, but many have not complied.

MR. and MRS. BENJAMIN BLATT and their children, Sallie, Annie and Clarence, are among this number. They came from Sinking Spring several years ago, and joined Otterbein Church April 5, 1908. The parents joined the United Brethren Church years ago, and are devoted to her life and spirit.

AMOS DILLER and WIFE and their two sons, Hilbert G. and Allen L., constitute another family of churchly, faithful Christians. The parents come from old United Brethren families, and their children are model young men. They joined Otterbein April 5, 1908.

RAYMOND V. STRAUSSER, our faithful and efficient Janitor, joined the church April 5, 1908. He has endeared himself to all the members and friends of the church by his kind and courteous bearing, as well as by the faithful performance of his duties. He is a young man of promise to the church, especially if he will give Christ the right of way in his life.

MRS. ALVA RIBER and MRS. WALTER HAYDEN, her daughter, are esteemed members and friends of the church. They are always the same, in season and out of season, quietly serving the church in every way they can, and scattering seeds of kindness wherever they go. Their husbands, Mr. Riber and Mr. Walter Hayden are good friends of ours.

MRS. EMMA SMITH joined the church April 5, 1908. Many years ago she belonged to the congregation, but moved away and became separated from its life and influence. She is a devout Christian and a faithful member, and bears the marks of many sorrows. She has had her share of grief and trouble, but she is an heir of God, and expects and intends to outlive all the storms of sorrow that may fall, and reach home at last.

WILLIAM LORD CLOUSER and WIFE are among the young people of the church, and should be increasingly useful in her work and worship. Mr. Clouser joined the church January 5, 1908. His wife has been a member for some years, and is an officer in the church. Her mother and sister, Mrs. Richard Hill and Miss Ida, are also members of the church. In this season of affliction and bereavement may they realize that the Lord is their Shepherd.

MR. HENRY GOOD and son, NOAH, came from Ephrata two years ago and joined Otterbein by certificate January 5, 1908. Mr. Noah Good is a fine young man, and should prove a great help to the church and a blessing to the community. May his usefulness increase with the years.

MRS. WILLIAM C. WERTS, wife of Dr. Werts, became a member of the church April 5, 1908, and has been faithful in her duties. In her attendance upon the means of grace, public preaching, prayer meeting and Sunday School services, Mrs. Werts has been a devout worshipper, and promises to be a very useful member of the church. Her husband, Dr. Werts, a son of Mr. and Mrs. James Werts, is a bright and skillful physician, up-to-date in his knowledge and practice.

MR. T. H. B. GEIGER and WIFE have been stand-bys in Otterbein Church for years. I am sorry I don't have a cut and a sketch of them and their faithful lives. They joined Otterbein Church March 21, 1869, and from that day to this they have been devoted to her fellowship and welfare. Moreover, Brother Geiger has been equally faithful to his country, having served as a soldier in the Civil War, from which he came home with a very honorable discharge and an empty sleeve. I take off my hat and open my heart to the old soldier, with whom I love to converse.

MR. HARRY DUNGAN and WIFE have been members of the church for many years, and have done much to help on its various enterprises, especially when it comes to hard work and large giving; for they are both liberal in their support of the church. Mrs. Dungan is active in the several societies of the church, and in her quiet way does much for the cause. Both of them are generally faithful in their attendance upon the church and Sunday School services.

MR. and MRS. WM. H. MILLER are among the first members of Otterbein Church, Mrs. Miller, *nee* Sands, being a charter member, and Brother Miller having joined soon after the congregation was organized, in 1867, I think. Mrs. Miller came from Zion's U. B. Church with forty others, who formed the nucleus of a new plant. These two substantial members and founders of the church are looking towards the city that hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God, and where they have special attractions, especially in the person of a lovely daughter, who was and is dear to their hearts.

MRS. COVINGTON and NELLIE, her daughter, are included in the membership of the church. Mrs. Covington joined years ago, and Nellie later. The mother has had her share of sorrow, especially in the fact that death has been in her home and left a vacant chair. But she has blessed hope with her weeping. "Heaviness may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning."

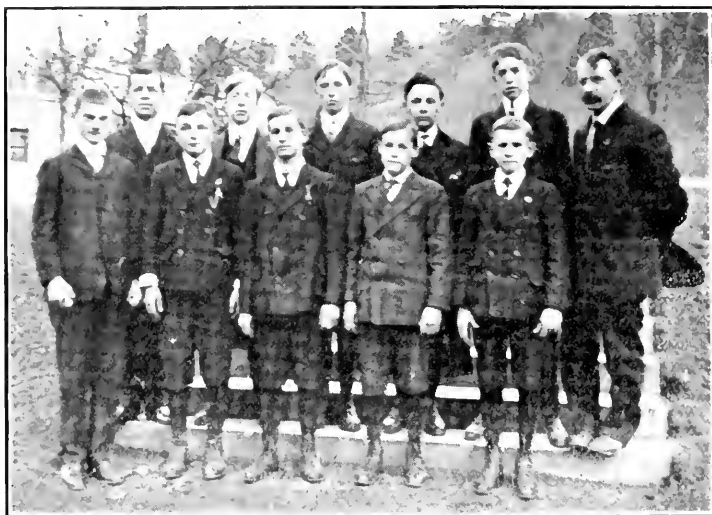
MRS. L. J. COYLE is one of the young ladies of the congregation, and has been active and helpful in the work of the church, especially in the circles and societies in which ladies are naturally interested and successful. She is gifted as a follower of Dorcas, and has given much time and labor to that department of service, and thereby brought much revenue to the church. She is the wife of Mr. L. J. Coyle, the well-known insurance manager, and a daughter of Mrs. Mary Wisler.

MRS. CLARA SHERKER, daughter and sister, MRS. JOHN ADAMS and MISS ESTHER LUTZ, constitute a churchly trio of members, all of whom have been and still are sincerely devoted to the congregation. The same is true of Clara Hildred, who is a member of the pastor's Bible Class, and also of the Primary Department of the Sunday School. Mrs. Sherker is a faithful Christian, a good mother and friend. Her husband died some years ago, and she knows what sorrow is. Still, she and her loved ones are hopeful.

MRS. MARY E. GALLAGHER joined the church April 5, 1908, in connection with nineteen others, on profession of faith. It was the first Sunday in the month, and Holy Communion was administered that day. Mrs. Gallagher has been very attentive to her church duties, and active and helpful in the work of the congregation. She rarely misses a service of any kind. Such attention to the services of God's house is sure to enrich the worshipper.

The RHOADS FAMILY are all interested in the church. Miss Louisa is a faithful member, and her sisters are regular attendants at church and Sunday School services. The members of the family are real friends of the congregation, and the church is affectionately interested in them. Chester and the pastor are on good terms. Mrs. Rhoads is a real mother and a godly woman.

MR. HARRY SHAEFFER and WIFE, 919 Greenwich Street, are young members of the church, and are highly esteemed for their many acts of kindness towards the congregation, in which they are sincerely interested. May they increase in usefulness.



MISS WERTS' CLASS

HOW THE READING UNITED BRETHREN CHURCHES VOTED FOR DELEGATES TO GENERAL CONFERENCE

	Reading Otterbein	Reading Salem	Reading Zions	Reading Memorial
D. D. Lowery	99	50	82	68
C. I. B. Brane	158	58	101	22
S. C. Enck	36	21	38	45
G. D. Batdorf	94	67	127	19
A. A. Long	29	22	30	4
H. S. Gable	37	32	59	52
J. A. Lyter	54	10	8	9
I. H. Albright	56	44	81	23
I. E. Runk	57	19	14	47
H. E. Miller	45	23	23	38
H. B. Spayd	12	14	24	8
E. A. G. Bossler	32	10	12	11
E. O. Burtner	8	3	2	4
R. R. Butterwick	22	28	30	21
A. E. Shroyer	27	6		8

LAY DELEGATES

Clinton M. Hershey	93	23	51	18
S. F. Engle	33	55	97	57
W. H. Ulrich	43	23	36	22
T. G. Spangler	53	53	102	40
J. G. Stehman	70	21	73	20
S. P. Black	55	31	23	14
R. A. Enders	14	9	21	13
S. N. Eby	107	17	56	15
W. J. Roop	65	34	17	27
M. S. Hendricks	15	14	75	52
J. H. Balsbaugh	14	22	15	10
E. Benjamin Bierman	39	62	42	39
G. L. Grabill	80	10	37	12
John Herr	30	11	10	6
D. B. Kieffer	57	20	17	21

MR. and MRS. EZRA WEINHOLD came from Ephrata two years ago, and a year later they joined Otterbein Church. Mrs. Weinhold is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Abram McCarty. They feel "at home" in their new church relations, and take pleasure in the work and worship of the congregation. These two should become stand-bys in the church in years to come. May the Lord grant it.



Mr. and Mrs. Ezra Weinhold

MISS BECKIE GEHRET and MISS BESSIE SNYDER, two of the young ladies of the congregation, are exemplary Christians and should increase their interest and activity in the church. They are identified with the Y. W. C. A., and are also interested in the W. C. T. U. May their young hearts and lives be bright with the sunshine of His favor, and their gladness of soul increase as the days go by.

MISS LOUISA M. HEDRICK is devoted to her church and its services, and usually enjoys the inspiration and fellowship of the morning worship. Moreover, her regular attendance and friendly spirit have been a great help to others. Fixed habits of a church-going nature are far reaching in their influence. How much good we all may do in this way.

MRS. IDA SYMONDS came from Lancaster County some years ago, and straightway identified herself with Otterbein Church, where her influence has been blessedly helpful in every way. Owing to affliction her attendance at church has been seldom this winter, yet she keeps in touch with its life and labor. Her daughter, Mrs. Jennie Hoffman, wife of the well known furniture dealer, is also an esteemed member.

MRS. EMMA KLINE is one of the older members of the church. In her the church has had a life-long friend and an exemplary member. Her life has been a praise to God and a blessing to humanity. She and her husband and daughter are living happily together in Christ Jesus, who will say it is enough. She is loved and honored by all the members of the church, who regret that she cannot attend the services any more.

MRS. REBECCA BINGAMAN is now living in Beulahland. Her race is nearly run, and the prize of eternal life is practically won. I wish I had her picture for this Souvenir, side by side with that of Mrs. Emma Kline's, that we might look into their faces and reflect upon their godly lives and labors. Mrs. Bingaman is full of praise to God for His goodness, and is tenderly cared for by her loving daughters. She is waiting.

MR. and MRS. SAMUEL ZIMMERMAN, two true and tried members of the church, are now living at Rosedale, where they have a pleasant home and restful surroundings. They have enjoyed the fellowship of the church for years, and their presence is always an inspiration to the pastor and the congregation. They, too, have a vacant chair in their home. By the way, how many broken home circles there are!

JACOB STROHECKER and WIFE are among our most faithful members. They are staid and steady in their habits of life, and really enjoy religion. In the years to come they will still shine out their love for the Master, and thus bless the church.

MRS. LILLIAN WALTHER and her children have had sickness and death in their home, the husband and father having died one year ago. But in the One who is the Resurrection and the Life there is help and hope. May they trust in Him.

MRS. EMMA GOAS joined the church September 29, 1907, by certificate from the U. B. Church at Schuylkill Haven, which is her native place. She is here what she was there, a faithful Christian and esteemed church member. In the Sewing Circle Mrs. Goas is especially active and useful. She and her husband and children are all interested in the work and worship of the church. May God bless this dear family.

MRS. MATILDA EYRICK and her daughter, MRS. ESTHER ROTHERMEL, belong to Otterbein Church, through whose ministry and membership they have been inspired to a closer walk with God. May He continue to be their guide, even unto the end, and then receive them to glory.

MISS SALLIE FORNEY has been a member of the church for some years, and is one of the most faithful in her attendance upon the services of the church and Sunday School. She is kind and friendly to all and loves the Saviour, Who will say to her, "Come up higher."

MRS. BELLE ZELL is just out after a spell of sickness, which was a new experience for her. She and her children are among the "regulars" in their attendance at church and Sunday services. Mrs. Zell is one of the most active and interested of our members and serves faithfully in the Sewing Circle and Missionary Societies of the congregation.

MRS. SALLIE HESS, who has been a faithful member of the church for many years, is too much afflicted to attend church often, but her interest in the congregation and in the cause of Christ is abiding. She and her husband are still "on the way."

MRS. EMMA HIGH and daughters, Mrs. Florence Smith and Miss Katharyne Louisa, are each identified with the church and its services. Katharyne usually comes with her grandparents, and is indeed a "sunbeam" at home and elsewhere. God bless the children.

MRS. RICHARD P. HILL and daughter, Miss Ida Hill, whose husband and father recently died, are continuing their residence at the old home, together with Mr. Joseph Hill and wife.

MRS. RACHEL BOWERS, one of the charter members of the church, is spending her closing years very pleasantly with her son and his Christian family. Notwithstanding her age, she is enjoying a fair degree of health. Better still, she is strong in faith and blessedly hopeful concerning the future. She is loved and honored by all the members of the church.

MR. and MRS. JAMES WERTS and daughters, Esther and Annie, are esteemed members of the church. The daughters are interested in the Sunday School, the one as a teacher and the other as a scholar, while the son, Mr. James R. Werts, is Secretary of the Ushers League. In her painful affliction, from which she is slowly recovering, Mrs. Werts has enjoyed the tender ministry of her husband and children. Good children are a joy to parents.

MRS. CLARA J. SPANGLER joined the church January 5, 1908. She had been a friend and a regular attendant long before, but when her husband died she felt that she should become identified with the congregation. She is afflicted and bereaved, but greatly comforted in Jesus.

MR. and MRS. HOWARD SPANGLER have been members of the church for years. They and their children were formerly active and interested in the church and Sunday School services, and enjoyed the fellowship of the saints. May their Lord keep and comfort them, even unto the end.

MRS. KATE SAYLOR is a firm and faithful Christian and also devoted to the church. Although much afflicted, she attends the services when she can. She is loved by all.

MISS LILLIAN C. STRUNK, one of our brightest and best young ladies and a pupil in the high school and also gifted in music, should become one of the most useful members of the church. She can and should make her influence felt for good all through the years to come. She always listens attentively to the Word.

MR. JOSEPH REIST and WIFE, including their dear children, form an interesting home circle. They are all members of the church of Jesus Christ, and will no doubt prove a blessing to the congregation all through the years to come.

MRS. SALLIE ROWE is not physically strong, and rarely gets to the sanctuary services, but always expresses her love for the church and her personal interest in the blood of the Lamb. May she soon be well in body, and also find grace to serve Christ and the Church.

MR. J. H. O'BRYAN and WIFE, the latter a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Zieber, are very devoted members of the church. In the midst of affliction and some bereavement, they "press towards the mark" and hope to win the prize of eternal life.

MRS. ANNIE PINYARD, *nee* Richards, is one of our faithful young women. Just one year ago, March 19, 1908, the pastor married her to Mr. Albert Pinyard, of Philadelphia. They are devoted to the church, and will find many opportunities to help on her work. God bless them!

MISS SALLIE LESSIG, one of the standbys in the several societies of the church, is a noble Christian lady. She and her husband are greatly interested in the church.

MR. CLARENCE L. MILLER, son of Mr. Wm. and Mrs. Tillie Miller, is a bright young member who should make his years count for Christ and the church. He has an ideal wife and lovely children.

MR. HARRY J. MILLER and WIFE joined the church April 19, 1908. The door of usefulness is open to them, and they should enter it while they are young.

MR. HOWARD HOOPES and WIFE are among our substantial people. Being young and conscientious, their usefulness should increase with the years, and their influence for good should count for much in a spiritual way. They are highly esteemed.

MRS. EMMA J. HOVERTER and daughter, Miss Ruth, are helpfully identified with Otterbein Church, as is also the father and grandfather, Mr. William Murdorf, whose devoted wife was called home last year. May the pierced hand hold and help these representatives of three generations.

MRS. SUSAN LIED and her children, Harry and Minnie, constitute an entire home circle. God has said He will be a husband to the widow and a father to the fatherless. So may He be to this widow and her children. The church esteem them highly.

MR. and MRS. SAMUEL LANDIS joined the church some years ago, and still they walk the highway together, mutually bearing each others' burdens. The pastor and congregation are always glad to see them at church. The daughter is always at Sunday School.

MISS MARY GRAUL, who came from Zion's Church as a charter member, is a modest Christian lady of much experience, and is still interested in the congregation and the welfare of its members. She is alone in her home life, yet "never alone" because she walks with Him.

MR. H. CLAY STONER and WIFE, who was Miss Genieva Loose, are among the younger members of the congregation, and the spiritual development of their lives should be increasingly blessed. Their children, Erma and Kise, are devoted to the church and promise much for the future.

MRS. HATTIE A. HEFFNER came into the church January 5, 1908. She is a regular worshiper at the public services of the congregation, and her three children are members of the pastor's Bible Class. She is a good member and a kind mother.

The HERM children, CATHARINE, MARY F. and ELSIE E. joined the church April 19, 1908. These lambs of the flock should receive special care and kindness from all, from the pastor down. Jesus loves little children, and wants us to look after them for Him. Will we do it?

MRS. BARBARA BERG joined the church April 19, 1908. She is a churchly member as well as a faithful Christian. Her sister, Mrs. Ida Heim, who is just recovering from a long and serious spell of typhoid fever, is also a member of the church; and her daughters, Anna and Edith, are members of the Sunday School. They are fine girls, a credit to parents and the church.

MRS. LOVENIA KLINE and her two daughters, Mrs. Nora Schetter and Mrs. Ella Riffert, whose visits to the sanctuary services are always appreciated, are the widows and daughters of the late Emerson Kline, whose picture appears elsewhere in this Souvenir, and whose life and labor were so helpful to the church.

MR. WILLIAM SHEARER, the well-known barber of North Ninth Street, WIFE and daughter, Miss Marie, and the other children, are identified with the church and Sunday School. Miss Marie is a regular attendant at church and Sunday School, and a member of Miss Loose's class.

MISS HATTIE MORGAN and her brother live together and are striving for unseen and eternal things. After awhile the Master will say, "it is enough."

Mrs. Bessie May Printz, Mr. Martin H. Nisley, Miss Trautman, Mrs. M. E. Conrad, Mrs. Annie Schnable, Miss Carrie Yerger, Miss Mary Batdorf, Miss Sarah Yoder, Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Spohn, William P. Reeser, Mrs. Beulah Rothermel, Mrs. Ella Knipe, Mrs. Amelia E. Hill, Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Frankfort, Mary A. Cox, Miss Maud Becker, Miss Ethel Becker, Miss Lororian Becker, Mr. Luther Weidman and sister, Mr. and Mrs. H. S. Craumer, all have a wide welcome in our church services and a warm place in our hearts.

SOME OTHER CONGREGATIONS

THE STORY OF READING ZION'S CHURCH

By Rev. G. D. Batdorf



REV. G. D. BATDORF

James Stahr
Eliza Stahr

John Kutz
Sarah Kutz

Henry Bitner
Mary Bitner

The history of the United Brethren Church in the city of Reading dates back to the year 1847. In that year the Zion's or First Church was organized. The organization was effected by Rev. Solomon Von Nieda, of Reamstown, assisted by Rev. S. Weidman, of Sinking Spring. Mr. Von Neida was associated with Rev. Simon Noll, then the pastor of Berks Circuit. The new class was attached to this circuit and continued as one of its regular appointments until the beginning of 1849, when it was constituted a mission station by the annual conference, and Rev. S. Noll was appointed as the first regular pastor.

SIX CHARTER MEMBERS

Six persons completed the charter membership of this organization. Their names follow:

All of these remained worthy and faithful members. Five of them have long since entered into their rest. Mrs. Eliza Stahr is the only one remaining of these faithful six. She is still a member of the old church, and loves it with a pure and almost worshipful devotion. Just recently she crossed the eighty-sixth milestone of her pilgrimage. Her holy life and radiant faith are a benediction upon the church. All who visit her feel the mystic touch of her ripened saintly character. God has allotted to her years, unusual strength and blessed her with a hopeful optimism that is most refreshing. Although she has been totally blind for a number of years, her heart is filled with praises to God for His goodness and loving kindness, and she awaits with confidence a triumphant entrance into the kingdom of light and rest.

"FIRST MEETING HOUSE"

In the fall of 1847, the first house of worship or "meeting house," as it was then called, was erected in the rear of the lot on which the present build-

ing stands. It was a little frame chapel, 20 x 30 feet, behind two houses which stood on the front of the lot, the entire property being owned by Rev. S. Weidman. There was a six-foot alley between these houses and the chapel. The cost of the building was about \$600, the greater part of which was paid by Mr. Weidman. It is to be regretted that the congregation never had a photograph of this first place of worship. For seven years the congregation worshipped in this chapel. During the first year or more the appointment was served regularly in connection with Berks Circuit by Rev. S. Von Nieda. The record shows that progress was made very slowly during the first few years. It is related that on one occasion Mr. Von Nieda had determined to drop the appointment, stating that he thought it was not worth while to preach to empty pews. Mr. Stahr then suggested that he arrange the half-dozen members who attended regularly into a semi-circle and take God in the midst. In addition to the fears within in the early life of this church, there were bitter foes without. Some of the other churches and pastors of Reading strenuously opposed the mission, and held it in derision. An unfriendly pastor, from whose church a number of members had gone to the "meeting house to get religion," and who afterwards united with it, gave expression to his feelings on this wise: "Whenever we establish a good work anywhere, the devil has these United Brethren around to spoil it."

SUNDAY SCHOOL ORGANIZED

Immediately after the chapel had been erected, steps were taken toward the organization of a Sunday School. John Kutz and James Stahr personally hunted up the scholars for the school. On the opening day there were twenty-four pupils present, all of whom were permanently enrolled. These were divided into four classes of six each. Mrs. Sarah Kutz, Mrs. Eliza Stahr, Mr. Henry Bitner and Mrs. Mary Bitner were the first teachers. The boys in Mrs. Stahr's class came bare-headed and bare-footed to the school. The first superintendent was John Kutz, and James Stahr was the secretary. On the Saturday morning before the opening of the first session of the Sunday School, the officers had not a single hymn-book or Bible to be used. During the day Mr. Stahr made a house-to-house canvass and solicited upwards of \$25; and in the evening he and the superintendent bought from Mr. Samuel Heckler, bookseller at Sixth and Penn Streets, the needed literature for the school. Mr. Heckler himself donated five dollars toward this project. Thus, amidst humble and struggling beginnings, the first Sunday School was launched. Later Mrs. Sarah Ebbert became a member of the school. She gathered scores of scholars and brought them into the school, as well as solicited large sums of money for the church's support. Mrs. Ebbert was for many years a faithful member of this church. She died two years ago, full of honors and at the ripe age of eighty-three years. Several years later Jacob Gossler united with the church by letter from the Fourth Street M. E. Church. He was elected the first class leader, and, after Mr. Kutz, became superintendent of the school. It was during these early years that Joseph Levan came to the Sunday School, preferring this to his own (Reformed) school. He was first a member of

Mrs. Stahr's class. Mr. Levan was one of the most loyal and faithful members the church ever had. He died several years ago.

A MISSION STATION

At the annual conference of 1849 Reading Zion's was constituted a mission station, and Rev. Simon Noll was appointed pastor. He served the charge faithfully for three years. A few lines of historical comment, taken from the old record, read: "The congregations in the beginning of Rev. Noll's labors were small. But he succeeded to draw a good congregation and to get up several revivals of religion. He reported at the end of his three years of labors, 'Seventy-eight members;' and left the church in a prosperous condition." The following is a complete copy of the minutes of the first regular quarterly conference:

C. Pefley, P. E.		May 3d, 1851.		
S. Noll, Preacher in charge.				
I. Carpenter, M. Seiler, W. Boyer, class leaders.				
T. Sands	} Exhorters	Michael Sands	} Stewards	
D. Lewis		Amos Graul		
		Hiram Roland		
I. Carpenter was licensed to preach. Martin Seiler, renewed.				
Stewards' money received		{	M. Sands' Class,	\$5.36
			A. Graul	5.00
			H. Roland	1.66
			<hr/>	
				\$12.02
Sect.. S. NOLL				

Sect., S. NOLL

During the pastorate of Rev. David Hoffman the little frame chapel was replaced by a larger and more substantial structure. This second building was constructed of brick. It afforded ample accommodation for the growing life of the church during many years. With some needed repairs from time to time, it continued as the place of worship until 1898, when the present commodious edifice was erected. The only item on record regarding the financial part of this project—and indeed of any other part also—is the one which states that there was an indebtedness remaining of almost \$3,000. Subsequently a number of persons were, in turn, appointed agents by the annual conference for the soliciting of funds to cover this debt. By hard work and persistent effort the congregation, with the assistance of several special agents, succeeded by March 9, 1865, after eleven years, to reduce the indebtedness to \$730. This amount was secured within the next few years, and the church was freed from debt.

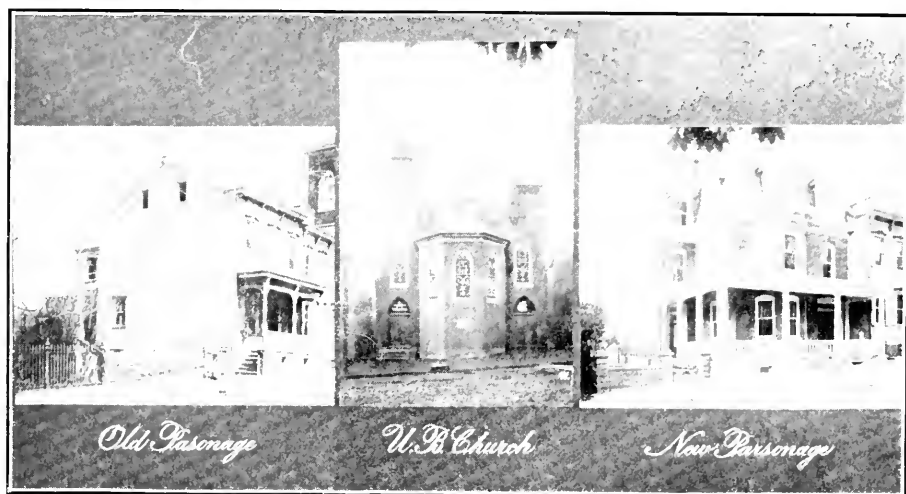
PASTORS OF THE CHURCH

Solomon Von Nieda 1847-48	E. Light 1864-66	J. H. Von Neida 1889-94
Simon Noll 1849-51	J. Runk 1867-68	U. Gambler 1895
David Hoffman 1852-54	J. Light 1869-71	S. S. Daugherty 1896-97
Joseph Young 1855-56	J. H. Unger 1872-75	J. H. Von Nieda 1898-99
Geo. W. Hoffman 1857-59	J. H. Mark 1876-78	A. G. Nye 1899-04
J. G. Fritz 1860	David Hoffman 1879-81	I. H. Albright 1904-06
Jacob Brewer 1861-62	S. Etter 1882-86	G. D. Batdorf 1905—
D. M. Kauffman 1863-64	J. Light 1887-88	

The third and present church building was erected under the pastoral labors of Rev. J. H. Von Nieda at a total cost of \$13,500. It was dedicated October 29, 1898, by Bishop N. Castle. The building is constructed of brick, with a fine brownstone front, and is lighted copiously with art glass windows of modern and beautiful design. It is a two-story building, with the main auditorium, seating about 550, on the second floor. The first floor is furnished with library and rooms for Sunday School purposes. In the spring of 1907, under the present pastor, the interior of the church was thoroughly renovated and beautified. New lighting fixtures took the place of old ones. A fine two-manual pipe-organ was installed. The total cost of these improvements amounted to \$3,500. The present Board of Trustees consists of Franklin Ebright, William J. Levan and H. C. Holder. Every department of the church is thoroughly organized and in good condition for effective work. The congregation is harmonious. Its present membership is upwards of three hundred. A congenial and inspiring fellowship characterizes the public services. With devout gratitude to God for His continued mercy, the members record their remembrance of Him, and erect a stone of memorial in the sweet assurance that "Hitherto the Lord hath helped."

MESSIAH U. B. CHURCH, SCHUYLKILL HAVEN

By Rev. S. G. Kauffman



The first U. B. Church in Schuylkill Haven, Penn'a, was built in the year 1847, located on the corner of St. John and Market Streets. This building still remains intact, and is used for a dwelling. This house was used for public worship until September 8, 1861. This house was sold for \$400. The Rev. John A. Sand was the preacher in charge, and he, with William Fisher, John Freeman and David Dress as trustees, built the church. The Rev. Henry W. Landis followed Rev. John A. Sand, and was the pastor until 1858. The Rev. D. M. Kauffman became the preacher in charge in 1859. On August 22,

(h)

1860, the trustees met in the home of S. M. Shultz and agreed to build a larger house of worship. The trustees present at this meeting were William Deibert,



Rev. S. G. Kauffman

Wendel Fenstermacher, Solomon Fidler, John Y. Houck and Benjamin E. Drumheller. The name of the church decided upon was "The Messiah Church" of the United Brethren in Christ. It was resolved in this meeting that \$2500 must be secured before beginning to build. The Rev. D. M. Kauffman was appointed to solicit the membership for sufficient moneys to justify the beginning of building. In this he succeeded. In 1861 he, with William Deibert, was appointed to draw up an act of incorporation for the congregation and to present it to the Courts of Schuylkill County. On the 1st of November, 1860, a lot of ground was purchased on Main Street for \$800. On November 16, 1860, at a meeting of the trustees, the committee appointed to draw up specifications for the building presented their report, which was adopted; and a building committee was appointed on April 1, 1861, which was composed of S. M. Shultz,

Wendel Fenstermacher and Joseph Dengler. The entire cost, including the furniture, was \$3,160.40. The names of the charter members are as follows:

Samuel M. Shultz	Daniel Kaercher	Charles Herbst	Daniel Martz
Wendel Fenstermacher	Fredrick Hess	David Commings	George M. Boyer
William Daubert	Solomon Fidler	Joseph Mellon	William Deibert
John Hendricks	B. E. Drumheller	Jeremiah Sterner	John Y. Houk

The names of preachers in their order are as follows:

J. A. Sand 1846-48	A. F. Yeager 1864-65	J. H. Mark 1883-87
Simon Noll 1848-49	J. G. Fritz 1865-67	A. Lehman 1887-89
George Smith 1849-52	J. B. Daugherty 1867-69	J. G. W. Herold 1889-90
Jacob Roop 1852-53	J. R. Meredith 1869-71	J. G. Fritz 1890-92
Simon Noll 1853-55	J. P. Smith 1871-74	A. Graul 1892-94
Simon Zimmerman . . . 1855	John F. Smith 1874-75	C. S. Miller 1894-96
David Hoffman 1855-57	P. A. Bowman 1875-77	C. A. Mutch 1896-99
C. Peffley 1857	J. C. Mumma 1877-79	S. B. Wengert 1899-03
J. W. Landis 1857-60	C. S. Meily 1879-80	M. J. Mumma 1903-07
D. M. Kauffman 1860-63	J. D. Killian 1880-82	R. R. Butterwick . . . 1907-08
D. Hoffman 1863-64	H. B. Dohner 1882-83	S. G. Kauffman 1908--
	A. Graul 1883-83	

On August 8, 1899, a congregational meeting was held, and it was decided to remodel the church. Charles Keller, M. W. Quinter, G. W. Maberry, Aug. Hertzell, B. F. Herliman and Rev. C. A. Mutch were appointed in connection with the board of trustees (Dr. P. C. Detwiler, Charles Schumacker, Emanuel Maberry, Moses Evelyn and W. J. Schwenk) as a building committee, which repaired the church at a cost of about \$4,000. The reopening services were conducted December 31, 1899, by Dr. I. H. Albright. The following former

pastors preached: Revs. C. A. Mutch, Christ Miller, H. B. Dohner and P. A. Bowman.

On April 1, 1882, during the pastorate of Rev. Amos Graul, the first parsonage was purchased for \$1,300. It was located thirty feet from the church. In the spring and summer of 1908, during the pastorate of R. R. Butterwick, the present parsonage was erected. This is the most complete home in the conference. The cost of this house was \$4,499.76. The value of the property is estimated at \$8,000. This parsonage was dedicated on November 1, 1908, by the Rev. Dr. C. I. B. Brane. All the indebtedness was provided for.

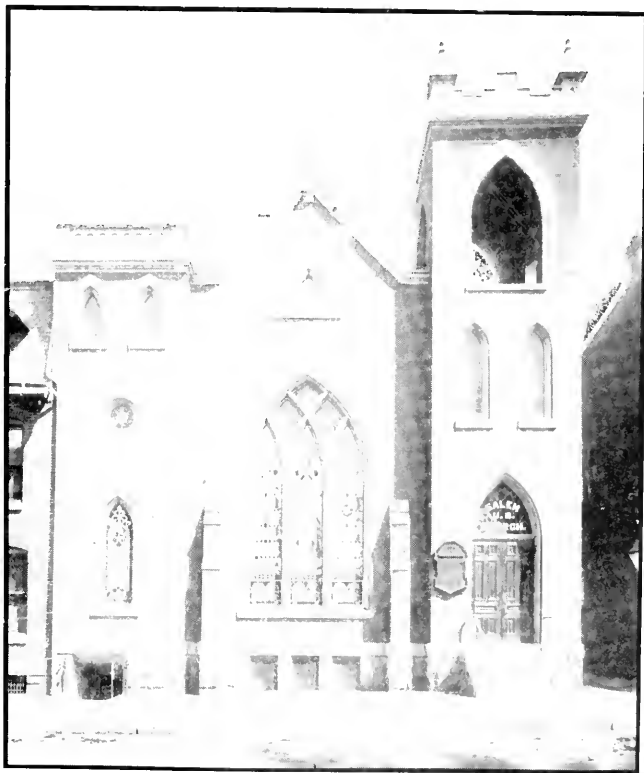
The trustees, Brothers M. W. Quinter, W. J. Schwenk, John Kauterman, Arthur Yost and George W. Maberry, with Rev. R. R. Butterwick, George P. W. Saul and Thomas Luckens, who constituted the building committee, deserve much credit for bringing to a successful finish this beautiful home.

SALEM U. B. CHURCH

By Rev. S. B. Wengert

Salem U. B. Church, Tenth and Spring Streets, Reading, Penn'a, was or-

ganized October 29, 1886, in a store-room on the corner of Spring and North Eighth Sts. with but five members, viz: Rev. and Mrs. Samuel Etter, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Shimer and Mr. Adam Bower. The East German Conference and Zion U. B. Church, South Ninth Street near Penn, co-operated in the establishment of this new church, which was placed in charge of Rev. Sam'l Etter, who was then pastor of Zion's U. B. Church. At the Quarterly Conference of Zion Church Frank Shimer, Joseph Levan and Joel Ganser were elected a board of trustees for the proposed mission.



Salem U. B. Church, Reading, Penn'a

This board selected the southeast corner of Spring and

North Tenth Streets as a proper location for the new church. The lot, consisting of forty feet front on Spring Street and one hundred feet front on North



Rev. S. B. Wengert

Tenth Street, was bought for \$700. The deed conveyed the lot from Joshua Keely and wife to Franklin Shimer, Joseph Levan and Joel Ganser, trustees of Salem U. B. Church. This deed was executed June 5, 1886, and the building lot became the property of the third U. B. church. Shortly after July 3, 1886, the first service of the mission was held at the rear of the Presbyterian Church, on North Ninth Street beyond Amity. Some one attending that first service says "that Rev. Etter desired permission to hold the service in the Presbyterian chapel, but this request being refused, Rev. Etter and his people gathered together on the outside, where he preached his first sermon." According to a statement made by Mr. Adam Bower, one of the first members, the services thereafter were held for a time in

a tent pitched on the commons between North Ninth and North Tenth Streets, some distance north of Spring. At the annual conference held at Shamokin, Penn'a, September 30, 1886, Rev. S. Etter was stationed as regular pastor of Salem U. B. Church, thus enabling him to give his entire time to the new mission. The first quarterly conference of Salem U. B. Church was held October 29, 1886, as formerly stated. The five members of the class which was at this time organized were all members of Zion Church at the time of the organization. Rev. J. Shoop presided and Rev. S. Etter acted as secretary. At this meeting Joseph Levan and Joel Ganser resigned as trustees of Salem Church, and Adam Bower and Cornelius Mengel were elected to fill the vacancies. At this quarterly it was also decided to occupy the store-room on the corner of Spring and North Eighth Streets as a temporary place of worship. In this place a revival was held, which resulted in some conversions. This store house was then owned by Frank Shimer, who sold the property in the spring of 1887, and the church services and Sunday School were transferred to the Marion Street public school building.

In 1887 a church house was erected on the lot at Tenth and Spring Streets. The cornerstone was laid May 26, 1887; and the new church was dedicated June 19, 1887, by Presiding Elder Shoop, who was assisted by Rev. A. M. Blecker and Rev. S. Etter. Rev. Shoop preached at 2.30 p.m. from Psalm 26: 8: "Lord, I have loved the habitation of thy house, and the place where thine honor dwelleth." In the evening he preached from Acts 19: 2: "Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed?" After the sermon the Lord's Supper was observed. The edifice was of frame, 35 feet wide and 50

feet long. The pulpit was of walnut, and the chancel, enclosed by a neat railing, was carpeted. The contract price of this first church building was \$1,100, and Frank B. Reinert was the contractor. Mrs. Etter, the devoted wife of the pastor, used to carry water in buckets from Ninth Street to clean the church. Rev. Etter served the new church as pastor during three consecutive years, and reported a membership of forty-five.

On April 1, 1891, additional ground adjoining the church lot was purchased of Frank S. Livingood for \$1,200. This gave the church 43 feet additional frontage on Spring Street, making the lot a rectangle of 100 feet on North Tenth Street and 83 feet on Spring Street. The corner lot, containing 60 feet front on North Tenth Street and 83 feet front on Spring Street, was sold under the pastorate of L. W. Craumer to William Hinnerstitz for \$1,000, leaving to the church but 40 feet front on North Tenth Street, and extending 83 feet deep along a ten-foot alley. Blunders like this will sometimes be made in church enterprises as well as in other undertakings.

Early in October, 1893, Rev. D. S. Longenecker became pastor of Salem Church. The editors of the "Conference Souvenir" for 1906 say that Rev. Longenecker found only eleven members on the church record, and a notice on the church door, "For Sale." He refused to preach in the church until this notice was removed. He reorganized the church, reinstated many members and repaired and enlarged the church. At the end of a pastorate of four years Rev. Longenecker reported a membership of 196. The first report of a Young People's Society appears in the Conference journal of 1894. The Society then had 54 members.

The church continued to grow in members and in influence under the pastorate of Rev. A. Lehman, who took charge of the work in October, 1897. After serving the church for six years, Rev. Lehman reported 311 members, with a Sunday School enrollment of 329, a Senior Young People's Society with 134 members and a Junior Society of 81 members. In 1901, during Rev. Lehman's pastorate, the three-story brick dwelling adjoining the church property on the north was bought for \$2,300 for a parsonage.

Rev. W. W. Fridinger was sent to Salem Church in October, 1903. The church building was partially destroyed by fire on April 28, 1904. A local paper gave the following account of the fire:

The one-story frame church of Salem U. B. congregation was badly damaged by fire Thursday, April 28, at 6.30 p.m. The entire structure was in danger because of the failure of the fire alarm to ring properly, delaying the firemen ten minutes. The flames ate their way to the steeple on the corner of the roof and communicated with the partition to the north of the hallway. The fire was of a stubborn nature, so that it was an hour before it was fully extinguished. Parts of the roof had to be torn up and the tower, which is closed on all sides, opened at several places. The auditorium was not damaged by the fire, but water got into it. The windows in the front wall were smashed. The cause is not exactly known; but an oil stove which was placed in the prayer-meeting room, to heat it for the evening worship, may have been overheated and ignited the partition. The cause of the fire alarm not working properly was attributed by Superintendent Hofses to a crossed wire, which caused the irregular tapping.

Some time after the fire arrangements were made to rebuild. The present substantial brick structure was erected at a cost of \$12,222.25. It was

dedicated to the service of God January 8, 1905, by Bishop J. S. Mills, D.D., LL.D. The sessions of the Annual Conference, then known as the Eastern Conference of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, were held in the old church building of Salem congregation October 6 to 9, 1898. The members and friends of the church royally entertained the ministers and lay delegates of the conference. Bishop E. B. Kephart, D.D., LL.D., presided at this conference. Again in 1906, from October 10 to 15, the congregation of Salem Church opened wide the doors of their new building and gave a hearty welcome to their homes to the members of the one hundred and seventh annual session of the East Pennsylvania Conference, with Bishop J. S. Mills, D.D., LL.D., as presiding officer. Salem Church has been influential in doing good in many ways, and has been successful in winning many precious souls for Christ. She is also noted for sending quite a number of her sons into the active ministry of the Word. The following persons have received their quarterly conference license at Salem to preach the Gospel:

James E. Keene	H. F. Reber	Charles G. Hummel	Harry Zue	Archantine Wolf
John B. Zweizig	Harper Kreiser	Percy Lehman	G. W. Rothermel	Titus Leibold

The following served as pastors of Salem Church:

Samuel Etter 1886-89	L. W. Craumer . . . 1891-93	W. W. Fridinger . . . 1903-08
Jacob H. Mark 1889-90	D. S. Longenecker . . 1893-97	S. B. Wengert 1908—
C. S. Miller 1890-91	A. Lehman 1897-03	

GRACE U. B. CHURCH, BIRDSBORO

By Prof. J. A. Grier

This church was organized in 1885, under the pastorate of Rev. M. P.

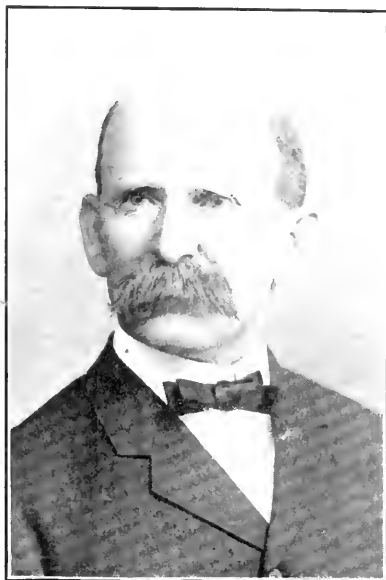


Grace U. B. Church, Birdsboro

Doyle, with the following charter members: Frederick H. Millard, Mrs. Frederick H. Millard, David McChalicher, Mrs. David McChalicher, Mary McChalicher, Carrie McChalicher, Samuel H. Wert, Mrs. S. H. Wert, Benjamin Grubb, Mrs. B. Grubb, Emanuel Grubb, David Painter, Lavina Millard, Levi McChalicher. The church building was erected in the year 1886, the first board of trustees being Frederick H. Millard, Benjamin Grubb, Emanuel

Grubb, David McChalicher and Samuel H. Wert. Various improvements have been made in the building from time to time, the latest being a fine new Primary Sunday School room.

The following have served as pastors in the order named: Martin P. Doyle, George A. Doyle, Philip Garrett, Ulysses S. G. Renn, J. K. Wagner, J. A. Grier, Nimrod A. Karicofe, Thomas Garland, George F. Bierman, G. W. Miles Rigor, G. B. Raezler, William Beach, J. Francis Smith, George M. Richter. The largest membership was under the pastorate of Rev. J. A. Grier, about one hundred then being connected with the church. One revival during this pastorate resulted in over sixty conversions. The present membership is sixty-six. The following are the present officers: Pastor, Rev. George M. Richter; Local Preachers, J. A. Grier, Vernon D. Grubb; Board of Trustees, F. H. Millard, Samuel H. Wert, Elmer E. Keinard, William Painter, D. Hunter Watts, Harvey Kulp, Vernon D. Grubb; Class Leader, F. H. Millard; Prayer Meeting Leader, Carl Pearson; Sunday School Superintendent, Harvey Kulp; President of Society of Christian Endeavor, Walter Moyer; Superintendent Junior Society of Christian Endeavor, Samuel H. Wert; Church Treasurer and Secretary of Official Board, J. A. Grier; Organists, Mrs. Renie Kulp and J. A. Grier. Official Board meets on the first Friday evening of each month.



Prof. J. A. Grier

TRINITY U. B. CHURCH, DENVER, PA.

By Rev. J. E. Keene



Rev. J. E. Keene

This church was founded by Rev. U. S. G. Renn. On the 3d of September, 1899, he organized a class of seven members, as follows: Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Wolf, Mr. and Mrs. A. R. McGill, Mrs. A. R. Kurtz, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Shuler. The first service was held in Shirk's Hall, on Railroad Street, February 26, 1900, by the pastor, Rev. U. S. G. Renn. The church was dedicated by Bishop Kephart November 25, 1900, assisted by Rev. D. D. Lowery and Rev. S. L. Rhoads. It cost \$5,476. These were the successive pastors: U. S. G. Renn, 1899 to 1900; S. L. Rhoads, 1900 to 1903; A. Lehman, 1903 to 1905; S. G. Kauffman, 1905 to 1908. The present pastor is Rev. J. E. Keene. The first trustees were E. B. Wolf, A. R. McGill, Isaac H. Miller, Charles Yeager and E. B. King. The Rev. S. L. Rhoads, under whose directing hand the church was erected, did a fine work on this

charge. This is a case where a good opportunity to establish a church in a



Trinity United Brethren Church, Denver, Pa.

place where it was needed was seen and embraced by the first pastor, whose good work was carried on and completed by those who succeeded him in the pastorate. In this way and in this case a good church has been built and a fine congregation established in the course of ten years. The promise and prospect of continued advancement by this young church is encouraging. As the years come and go its membership should achieve additional distinction in every high and holy sense, making for Him who gave them

this inheritance a still larger place in the affections of the community, especially by winning to the Christ those who have not yet responded to the call.

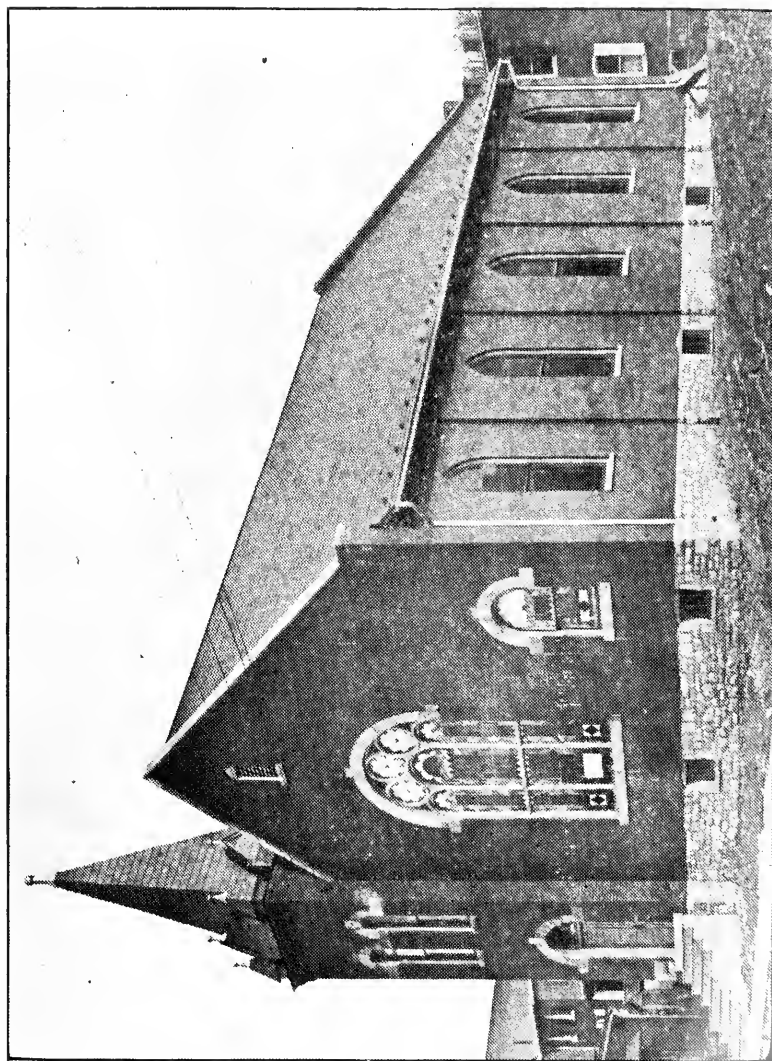
GRACE UNITED BRETHREN CHURCH, COATSVILLE, PA.

By Rev. H. S. Kieffer

The need of a United Brethren Church in Coatsville was seen in the fact that many of our people were moving there from other places, and were compelled to join other churches. The larger demand, of course, was in the fact that many people in the town were unsaved and unchurched. So, on the evening of November 5, 1901, at the home of Mr. Charles C. Leber, 41 South Fourth Street, a class of six members was organized by Rev. G. W. M. Rigor, who then was pastor of the Elverson United Brethren Church. The six charter members were J. W. Hughes, Mary Hughes, Charles C. Leber, Emma P. Leber, Mame Trego and Howard Wilson. J. W. Hughes was elected class leader, and Charles C. Leber and Howard Wilson stewards. Rev. Rigor continued to serve the new class as pastor till



Rev. H. S. Kieffer



GRACE U. B. CHURCH, COATSVILLE, PENN'A

the close of the year, when Mr. Harry Bokes was elected to the Annual Conference, which met in Lebanon, Penn'a, October, 1902, with instructions to ask Conference to make Coatsville a mission station and send them a pastor. In response to that request Rev. Rigor was appointed to Coatsville. The Society, now numbering fourteen, rented Odd Fellows Hall, corner Third Avenue and Main Street. A little later a board of trustees was elected as follows: Rev. G. W. M. Rigor, W. P. Snyder, E. V. S. Diem, C. C. Leber and H. J. Bokes, who purchased a lot from Harry Wagner on the southeast corner of Fifth Avenue and Olive Street. About this time a Sunday School was organized with W. P. Snyder as superintendent and J. H. Peters as assistant. A Christian Endeavor Society was also organized with A. H. Gehman as president and Mrs. Violet Bokes vice-president. A little later the executive committee of the Church Extension Board visited Coatsville by request of the pastor and trustees, and the committee decided that the lot purchased was not suitable for a church site, and directed the trustees to sell it.

During the summer of 1903, owing to the illness of Rev. G. W. M. Rigor, E. B. Harris, of the Moody Bible Institute, Chicago, was placed in charge of the work, and was reappointed to the charge the following fall. In October, 1904, Rev. H. M. Klinger was appointed to the pastorate, and was reappointed in October, 1905. During the second year of Rev. Klinger's pastorate a new site was secured from J. Rodney Martin, corner Olive Street and Virginia Avenue, at a cost of \$1,900. On this lot a church was built under the direction of the following board of trustees: E. V. S. Diem, president, W. R. Keener, secretary, P. H. Heckler, treasurer, R. B. Stover and S. A. Bell. This beautiful church, 40 x 60 feet, is built of Reading shale brick, with Indiana limestone trimmings, was dedicated March 3, 1907, by Bishop Mills, D.D., LL.D., assisted by Dr. Lowery and Rev. H. M. Klinger. At the Conference of 1908 the pastor presented the following report: Members, 69; Sunday School scholars enrolled, 275; Y. P. S. C. E., 44; Juniors, 103; money collected during the year, \$1,470. At this Conference the present pastor, Rev. H. S. Kiefer, was appointed. At this time the membership is 87, and the enrollment in Sunday School is 350. March 7, 1909, we observed our first anniversary of the dedication of the church. Dr. D. D. Lowery and Rev. G. D. Batdorf were present and gave splendid sermons and service. The offering was over \$400. The work is hopeful, and the church is growing.

The outlook of this church is especially encouraging from the standpoint of the Sunday School, in which there is a large and rapidly growing enrollment, sustained by a fair and increasing attendance. Moreover, many pious and substantial men and women are included in the membership of the congregation, whose services are interesting and well attended. If the present organized life and individual influence of the church remain loyal to Christ, the future years will witness a still more blessed expression of spiritual grace and power. This is the will of God, the purpose of the church, and the prayer of the pastor.

SINKING SPRING U. B. CHURCH

By Dr. I. H. Albright

Meeting-houses and churches are a necessity in the development of a Christian civilization. They assure growth and permanency in the work of the church. The heathen religionist recognizes the importance of having suitable places of worship. The Buddhist has his temple, the Shintoist has his shrine, the Confucianist has his pagoda, the pagan his idol-house, the Jew has had his tabernacle, his temple and his synagogue, and still has his synagogue, and the Christian must have his church. Many of us have been so long accustomed to worship in our commodious meeting-houses and fine and costly edifices that we can hardly appreciate the difficulties and inconveniences that confront those congregations who, by force of circumstances, are compelled to worship in any old place. In the early history of our Church, the fathers worshipped in private houses, barns, school-houses, shops, groves and in other inconvenient places where the people could be assembled. They worshipped thus for years in the homes of Brothers Bishop, Geeting, Kemp, Doub, Huber, Newcomer, Weidman, Russel, Draksel, Herbaugh, Kreider, Sechrist, Middlekauff, and of many others. They did the best they could under the circumstances, until the momentum of their evangelistic labors had gained such headway as to lay upon them the necessity of building churches. Our fathers, like Abraham the patriarch, built altars to the Lord before they built houses for themselves or meeting-houses in which to erect their altars. Their best energies were spent in winning souls to Christ, and in this work they



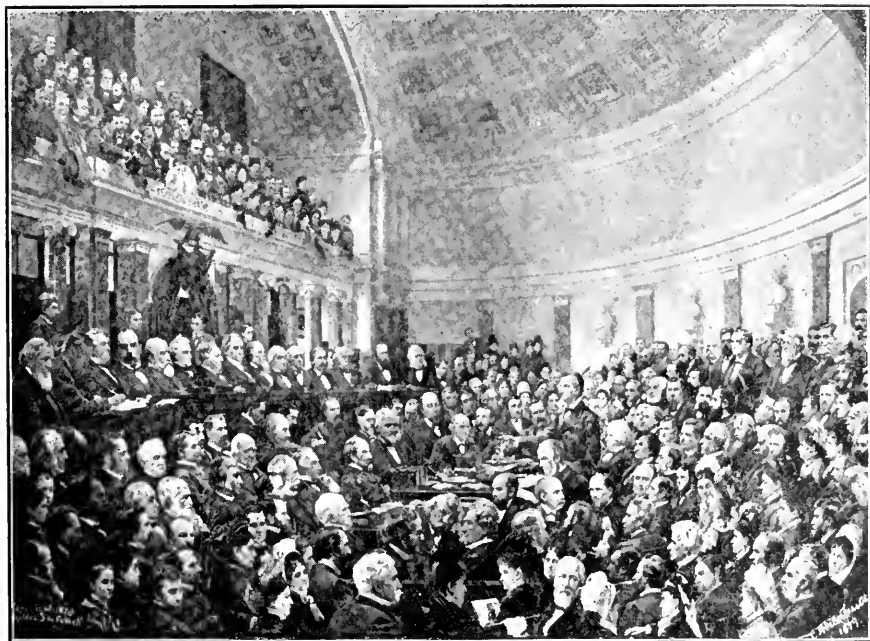
Dr. I. H. Albright

were eminently successful, but there they too often stopped. Hence the building of churches was very slow work for years. Up to the year 1800 only three United Brethren churches had been built: Geeting's meeting house, near Keedysville, Md., built in 1775; Otterbein Church, Baltimore, Md., built in 1785; and Meidig's meeting-house, Oberlin, Pa., built in 1793. These churches were all located in widely-separated communities, and each became a strong centre for missionary operations.

One of the early preaching places was at Solomon Weidman's, near Sinking Spring, Penn'a, about five miles west of Reading. Here Newcomer and Geeting preached and held "sacramental meeting" April 23, 24 and 25, 1796. Newcomer says: "Glory to God, it was a blessed time." During the following year, on May 13, Brothers Newcomer and Pfrimmer conducted a week's services here, in the presence of a great "collection of people from far and near." Our brethren continued to preach regularly in Weidman's house, and during the summer season in the large barn. Both the house and barn are still standing, and were used to hold services in until 1867, when a substantial two-story brick church was built in Sinking Spring. The corner-stone of this church was laid October 14, 1866, and the completed church was dedicated on Sunday, June 9, 1867.

SOME INTERESTING EXTRAS

THE ELECTORAL COMMISSION

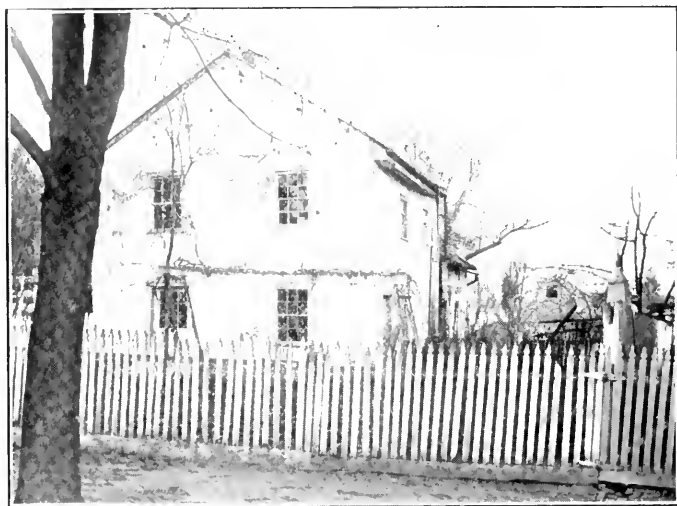


Here is an interesting historic scene, which is laid in the room of the Supreme Court of the United States at Washington, D. C. It is a splendid reproduction of Mrs. Fassett's famous painting of the Electoral Commission, which was a strange device conceived by Congress to determine whether R. B. Hayes or Samuel J. Tilden had been elected President of the United States. William M. Evarts, a noted lawyer and statesman, is addressing the Commission in the interest of the Republican candidate, whose attorney he was. A. G. Thurman, T. F. Bayard, George F. Edmunds, O. P. Morton, Justice Bradley and other noted men are readily recognized on the bench. Roscoe Conkling and Senator Ransom are looking eagerly into the face of Mr. Evarts, while Sam Randall and Ben: Perley Poore are standing behind him. Mrs. Fassett herself, with note-book in hand, sits in the central foreground sketching. Just back of her, with face turned this way, in the act of speaking to some one, is James G. Blaine. Matt Carpenter, that gifted genius of the law, sits with his head to one side, at the end of the table, looking this way. Then there is William Windom, Senator Kernan, and John J. Ingalls, of Kansas, who used to say what most politicians seem to believe in their very

hearts, that "the Decalogue has no place in politics." My, what a power that man was in debate. Logan, Allison and Sherman are plainly seen. Great picture—Great assembly! Great occasion!

A POLITICAL INCIDENT

Here is a picture of the oldest house in Dillsburg, Pa. The Rev. Anderson B. Quay, pastor of the Presbyterian Church of that town, and father of



Matt Quay's Childhood Home

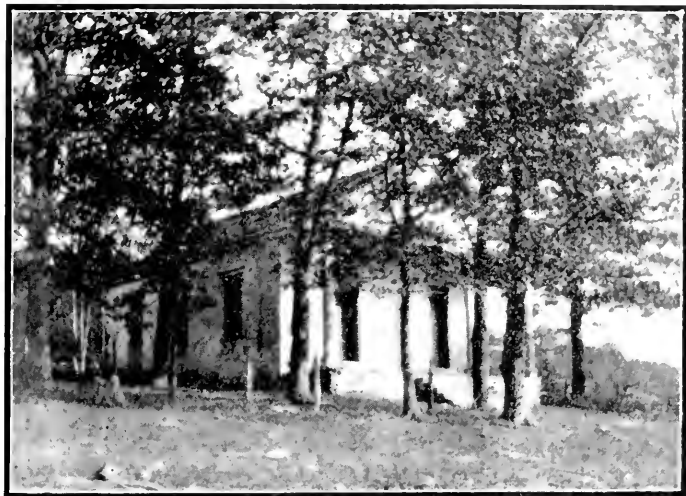
Hon. Matthew Stanley Quay, lived in this house from 1830 to 1839. In this house "Matt" was born in 1833, and spent six of the earliest years of his life. My good friend, the Rev. W. A. Dickson, pastor of the United Brethren Church of Dillsburg, knowing my personal interest in landmark history, kindly sent me this photo several years

ago. The picture recalls an interesting political event in the history of my ten-year pastorate at Trinity Church, Lebanon, which city and county were strongly Republican, but also largely anti-Quay. In November, 1900, I think it was, Lebanon County was the battle-ground of factional contention, and the Quay people closed the hottest fight of their life with a great meeting in Fisher Academy, where Senator Quay, Justice John P. Elkins, Adjutant-General Stewart and other high State and Federal officials were to speak. Some ten days before this final rally, six or eight members of the Republican Committee, headed by the late Judge Capp, who was spokesman, called at the parsonage and informed me that I had been unanimously selected to preside at the meeting and introduce the speakers. The members of the committee were personal friends of mine, and some of them were among my most prominent parishioners. This request presented a perplexing problem; but I promptly decided not to preside. Then Judge Capp made another appeal, but I declined again, mainly for these reasons: First, I was not in sympathy with Senator Quay's political methods; second, I never meddle with partisan politics; third, my church, which was strong and influential, would have felt sorry over my appearance in politics. So, Mayor Gerhard presided at the Quay rally, and the pastor of Trinity Church "saved his bacon"—in more ways than one! Among those who came as a committee were Judge Capp, J. Henry Miller, E. E. McCurdy and John Hunsicker, Sr. The others I do not remember.

BAKERS VALLEY CHAPEL, FREDERICK COUNTY, MD.

Here is a spiritual cozy-corner in the memory of my early ministry, even before I was entrusted with a pastorate. Here, in Bakers Valley, a picturesque

dell within a stone's throw of the Monocacy battlefield, about three miles southeast of Frederick, Md., lived one of my early friends, Mr. Edward Baker, after whom this chapel in the grove was named, and by whom it was largely built. I used to visit Mr. Baker before I became a regular pastor, and sometimes preached in this church,



Bakers Valley Chapel

which is now used as a dwelling. It was erected in 1867, just a century to the day after the pentecostal meeting at Isaac Long's, and was dedicated by Bishop Glossbrenner, who was a bosom friend of Brother Baker's. Revs. A. M. Evers, John Wesley Grimm, J. Luther Grimm, J. D. Freed and C. T. Stearn were present and assisted at the dedication. Miss Laura Baker, daughter of Edward Baker, the founder of the church, says she distinctly remembers how sweetly Rev. Evers and the Grimms sang on that occasion. Among the prominent laymen present were Uncle Peter Kemp, at whose father's home the United Brethren Church was organized in 1800, Jacob Perry, Sr., and John D. Cramer. Daniel H. Hendrickson hauled the stones for the chapel and boarded the workmen; Mr. Charles Geisbert did the carpenter work and Mr. Elsworth did the masonry. Miss Lizzie Ridgely and the two Miss Bakers, Laura and Essie, collected the money for the furniture. Mr. Grafton Duvall gave the chandelier and pulpit lamps.

On the 14th of June, 1881, Miss Essie Baker was married in this cozy little church to Mr. Wesley Maxwell. Rev. J. D. Freed was the officiating clergyman. The second marriage that occurred in the church was that of Miss Kate Fout to Mr. John Leith. These were all delightful occasions, full of the old-time cheer and dignity, including a high tide of real sociability.

The first trustees were Edward Baker, Daniel Baker, Daniel Hendrickson, Charles Geisbert and Frank Hahn. The Hendricksons, Geisberts, Hahns and Bakers were the principal members then. Mr. Edward Baker gave me a new saddle and bridle when I became a pastor. He and Peter Kemp Henry

Perry, Frederick Kintz, Daniel Shook, Daniel H. Hendrickson and Cornelius Staley were good friends of mine. I hope to meet all of them soon.

MY PLAYMATE'S HOME

This picture revives sacred memories! It presents the scene of many a sunlit hour. It is the Shook home near Frederick City, Md., where our min-



The Shook Home

isters preached before the church owned a chapel, except the "Geeting Meeting House" at Antietam. Mr. Daniel Shook owned and occupied this house when I first knew it, and after his death his son Grandison bought it. The younger boys, Dan and Will, I knew and loved and played with all through my childhood. Dan was near my

age and stood closer to me than any other boy. He was instrumental in my conversion. He died several years ago. So far as I know, Will is still living and is a useful member of the church. In this house my father's funeral occurred. Dr. Zacharias, his pastor, preached the sermon. This house is near my childhood home. Blessed memories come to my heart as I think of my dear playmates!

A COLD MORNING RIDE

This snapshot recalls a very cold morning about six years ago. It was taken in front of Trinity United Brethren Church, Ninth and Willow Streets, Lebanon, Penn'a. The morning was bright but intensely cold, the pavement was covered with ice and the streets were drifted full of snow, as you see. Still, the Junior preacher, who was *very junior* then, went out for a ride. Then, as now, he was quietly eager for fun and frolic, and always ready to "go." Indeed, he and I have been on the go *together* from that day to this, rarely separated except when he was at school. On this particular occasion, our entreaties to the contrary notwithstanding, the mercury being below zero, the baby insisted on a "ride." Here he is in the enjoyment of that exquisite delight.

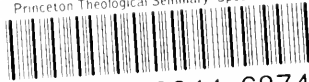


A Cold Morning Ride



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An historical souvenir of several of the

Princeton Theological Seminary-Speer Library



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